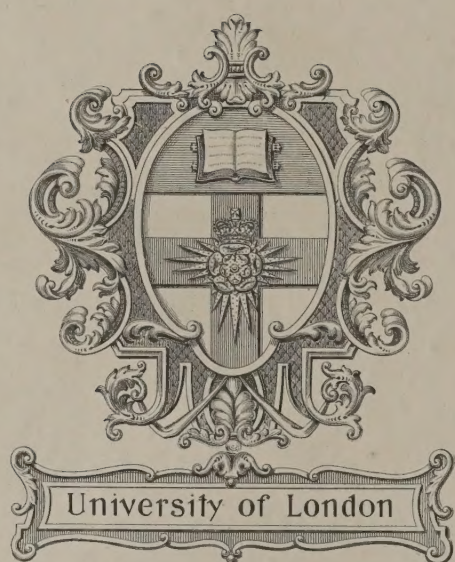
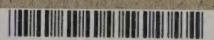






606151

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

THIRTY-FIVE VOLUMES.

— (9.) —

COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Session

19 *November* 1867 — 31 *July* 1868.

VOL. XLVIII.

1867-8.



ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1867-8.

THIRTY-FIVE VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE NINTH VOLUME.

N.B.—*THE* Figures at the beginning of the line, correspond with the N^o at the foot of each Paper; and the Figures at the end of the line, refer to the MS. Paging of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.

Colonial Possessions:

- [3995.] Reports, showing the Present State of Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions; transmitted with the Blue Book for the Year 1866:—Part I. West Indies, p. 1
- [3995-I.] Ditto - Part II. North American Colonies, African Settlements and St. Helena, Australian Colonies and New Zealand, Mediterranean Possessions, &c. - 113
- [3995-II.] Ditto - Part III. Eastern Colonies - 265

Australia, South (Marriages):

422. Act lately passed in South Australia to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Marriages in the Province of South Australia:—And, Despatch of the Secretary of State to the Officer administering the Government of the Colony relating to the Act - 323

British Columbia:

483. Correspondence between Governor Kennedy of Vancouver Island, Governor Seymour of British Columbia, and the Colonial Office, on the subject of a Site for the Capital of British Columbia - 337

Ceylon:

39. Extracts from Despatch from the Governor of Ceylon (Sir H. Robinson), dated 23rd April 1866 (No. 78), to the Colonial Office:—Despatch from the Colonial Secretary to the Governor of Ceylon, dated 12th March 1866 (No. 92):—And, Correspondence or Papers relating to the Petition to Her Majesty from Inhabitants of Ceylon - 351

China and Japan:

315. Reports from Major Crossman and Correspondence respecting the Legation and Consular Buildings in China and Japan - 373

Colonial Bishops:

- [4022.] Names of Colonial Bishops, and the Salaries of each (in continuation of Paper, No. 575, of Session 1867) - 405

Coolie Emigration:

328. Memorial to the Governor of Hong Kong from the Chief Justice of Hong Kong and the Honourable Mr. Whittall on Coolie Emigration:—And, Reply of the Governor thereto - 409

Jamaica (Mr. Eyre):

355. Letter from Lord Carnarvon to Mr. Eyre, dated 7th February 1867, relative to the Payment of Costs of any Criminal Proceedings against him - 427

Fremantle (Convicts):

482. Letter from the Howard Association, forwarding a Memorial from the Convicts at Fremantle, Western Australia, alleging the infliction of various cruel and illegal Punishments by the Governor:—And, Report from Governor Hampton on the subject - 429

Heligoland and Hong Kong:

- ✓ [3987.] Agreement under which Play Rooms are now held in Heligoland, and Ordinances (No. 9 of 1867) to make further Provision for the Maintenance of Order and Cleanliness within the Colony of Hong Kong - - - - p. 449

Immigrants and Liberated Africans:

- ✓ 208. Return showing the Number of Immigrants and Liberated Africans admitted into each of the British West India Colonies, as well as the Places from whence they were introduced, from 1843 to 1857, and in each Year since 1st January 1857, to the end of the Year 1867:—Similar Return for Mauritius:—And, Number of those who have Returned from each Place in each Year to their own Countries, and the Amount of Earnings remitted through Government Agency in their behalf (in continuation of Paper, No. 213, of Session 1867) 457

Natal:

- ✓ 454. Judgments of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the Colony of Natal in the Case of the Bishop of Natal against the Dean of Pietermaritzburg:—And, Charter or other Instrument regulating the Constitution of Natal at the Period when the Letters Patent of the Bishop of Natal were issued - - - - 465

New Zealand:

- ✓ [4019.] Papers relating to certain Allegations respecting the Treatment of Native Prisoners and others in New Zealand - - - - 489

Nova Scotia:

- ✓ [4036.] Copies of Despatches from Viscount Monck, forwarding Representations from Nova Scotia against the Union; and the Answer - - - - 527

Queensland (South Sea Islanders):

- ✓ 391. Correspondence relating to the Importation of South Sea Islanders into Queensland - - - - 537
- ✓ 496. Further Correspondence (in continuation of Paper, No. 391, of 1868) - 623

Victoria:

- ✓ 157. Correspondence respecting and arising from the Non-enactment of the Appropriation Act in Victoria, and the Recall of the Governor of the Colony, since the Letter from the Right Hon. C. B. Adderley, M.P., to Sir C. Darling, K.C.B., dated 7th March 1867, with the Enclosure (in continuation of Paper, No. 310, of Session 1867) - - - - 625
- ✓ [4014.] Further Correspondence respecting and arising from the Non-enactment of the Appropriation Act in Victoria (in continuation of Papers presented March 1868) - - - - 685
- ✓ [4014-I.] Ditto (in continuation of Papers presented April 1868) - - - - 693

West India Islands, &c., Relief:

- ✓ 142. Account (pursuant to Act of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 63) of all Sums Advanced to the Islands of Antigua, St. Kitts, Nevis, Dominica, and Montserrat, and of all Sums Repaid by reason of such Advances, with the Interest Paid thereon, during the Year ending 5th January 1868:—And, similar Account (pursuant to Act 11 & 12 Vict. c. 22) for the Island of Tobago, and the Colonies of British Gujana and Trinidad - - - - 705

West Indies (Salaries and Pensions):

- ✓ 346. Names and Offices or Incumbencies of all Persons in the West Indies now receiving a Salary or Pension from the Consolidated Fund, Date of their Appointment, and Amount paid to each individually, making up the Total Amount of £. 20,300 - - - - 707

REPORTS

SHOWING THE

PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE BOOKS
For the Year 1866.

PART I.—WEST INDIES.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
March 1868.



LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

SCHEDULE.

WEST INDIES.

No. in Series.	Colony.	Page.
1	JAMAICA - - - - -	4
2	BRITISH HONDURAS - - - - -	10
3	TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS - - - - -	15
4	BRITISH GUIANA - - - - -	29
5	BAHAMAS - - - - -	31
6	TRINIDAD - - - - -	43
	WINDWARD ISLANDS—	
7	BARBADOS - - - - -	45
8	ST. VINCENT - - - - -	50
9	GRENADA - - - - -	58
10	TOBAGO - - - - -	76
11	ST. LUCIA - - - - -	79
	LEEWARD ISLANDS—	
12	ANTIGUA - - - - -	85
13	MONTSERRAT - - - - -	95
14	ST. CHRISTOPHER - - - - -	101
15	NEVIS - - - - -	102
16	VIRGIN ISLANDS - - - - -	106
17	DOMINICA - - - - -	108

P A R T I.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir JOHN P. GRANT, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 260.)

MY LORD DUKE,

King's House, December 24, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace, herewith, the Blue Book of Jamaica for 1866, with my report on its contents.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

J. P. GRANT.

Enclosure in No. 1.

REPORT ON THE JAMAICA BLUE BOOK FOR 1866.

Constitution and Legislation.

In December 1865, two Acts were passed by the late Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Jamaica, intituled, respectively, 29 Vict. cap. 11. "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island;" and 29 Vict. cap. 24. "An Act to amend an Act passed in the present Session entitled an Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island." By the first of these Acts it was provided that from and after the coming into operation thereof the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Jamaica, and all the privileges and functions of those two bodies, should cease and determine; and by the second of these Acts it was made lawful for Her Majesty the Queen to constitute a government for Jamaica in such form and with such powers as to Her Majesty might seem fitting, and from time to time to alter and amend such government. Effect was given to these Acts of the Colonial Legislature by an Act of the Imperial Parliament, 29 Vict. cap. 12., entitled, "An Act to make Provision for the Government of Jamaica," which enacted that in construing the secondly recited Act, the term Government should be held to include Legislature, and that the powers exercisable by Her Majesty under the two Acts should be exercisable by Her Majesty in Council.

In the exercise of the powers thus conferred upon the Queen, Her Majesty was pleased, by Order in Council dated 11th June 1866, to establish a Legislative Council in Jamaica, to be composed of such officers and of such persons as she might think fit to be respectively official and unofficial members of the Council; and Her Majesty was pleased to order that until otherwise declared by any instruction under Her sign manual, the senior military officer in command of the troops within the Island, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney General, the Financial Secretary, the Director of Roads, and the Collector of Customs should be the official members. And the Governor was empowered to appoint one or more persons to act provisionally as unofficial members, in case at any time the members of such unofficial councillors present in the Colony should be less than six.

A Legislative Council thus constituted was called together by me on the 16th of October 1866, composed of all the official members enumerated by the Order in Council, with the exception of the Director of Roads, who had not at that time been appointed, and of three unofficial councillors provisionally appointed by me, who have since been appointed to the office by Her Majesty.

Nine acts were passed by the Council before the expiration of the year 1866, now under report. Of these the most important are the following:—

No. 8, for making alterations in the law consequent on the constitution of the Legislative Council created by order of the Queen in Council, dated 11th June 1866. This Act repeals various Acts and parts of Acts of the previous Legislature, which had ceased to have effect and operation in consequence of the change of Constitution; and it vests in the officers of the new Government the powers and functions of the former executive committee, and of various bodies politic, boards, and officers, which had *ipso facto* ceased and determined, or which the altered system of government rendered it expedient to abolish. The principal provisions of this law are those which vest in the Governor the powers previously exercised by the Governor in executive committee, or with their advice; and which define the powers and functions of the Colonial Secretary,

the Financial Secretary, and the Director of Roads; and those which abolish the elective vestries and road boards in the parishes, and empower the Governor to create boards of nominated members in their stead.

Law No. 2 of 1866, enabling the Governor to appoint any justice of the peace a stipendiary justice, and to give such justice all the powers belonging to two justices of the peace, sitting together. This law is designed to obviate delays in the administration of justice in petty sessions arising from the occasional non-attendance of unpaid magistrates at petty sessions.

Law No. 1 of 1866, a law to increase and secure the revenue from rum. This law increases the duty on rum from 2s. 9d. to 5s. 0d. a gallon, a measure rendered necessary by the enormous deficit in the finances of the financial year ending with September 1866.

Law No. 7 of 1866, to continue certain additional customs' duties which had been imposed in order to defray the cost of a monthly steam communication between this island and New York, which was discontinued for reasons of economy. This retention of additional customs' duties was also a measure rendered necessary by the extremely unsatisfactory state in which the finances of the Colony were left by the late Legislature of the Colony. The contract for maintaining a monthly communication by steam with New York, at a cost of 4,900*l.* a year, was determined by mutual consent, having been found to be a losing bargain to the contractors, and to bring no advantage to the Island equivalent to its cost.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year ended 30th September 1866, amounted to 327,359*l.* 3s. 7d. The gross expenditure for the same period amounted to 395,597*l.* 14s. 6d., showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of 68,238*l.* 10s. 0d. Of this gross expenditure a sum of 40,719*l.* 2s. 4d. was extraordinary in its nature; 33,179*l.* 10s. 1d. having been incurred on account of the disturbances in October 1865, and 7,539*l.* 12s. 3d. on account of other services which had been provided for by loans. Deducting this expenditure of an extraordinary nature from the deficit of 68,238*l.* 10s. 11d. there remains an apparent excess of ordinary expenditure over gross revenue of 27,519*l.* 8s. 7d.

But the true deficiency greatly exceeded this amount. The ordinary expenditure was shown by one sum of 2,900*l.* less than it ought to have been, owing to that amount, accidentally, not having been paid over to certain sinking funds before the close of the year, as it ought to have been; and by another sum of 13,075*l.* less than it ought to have been, owing to that amount having been diverted, temporarily, from the immigration fund to which it belonged, as it were by a loan from that fund, and having been spent upon the ordinary charges of the Colony. And the gross revenue of the year was shown at a much larger sum than was truly due to the year, by reason of a large quantity of rum having been taken out of bond in the course of the year, and stored as duty paid rum for consumption in the following year, in anticipation of the increase of excise duty, the necessity of which had become apparent to intelligent speculators early in the interval between the last prorogation of the old House of Assembly and the opening of the new Legislative Council. At the time it was guessed that these anticipatory payments had raised the revenues of the year 1865-66 by more than 13,000*l.* beyond the amount due to the taxation of the year. But now it has become certain that this was by much too low an estimate, and that the amount which must have been paid by anticipation in this manner may fairly be estimated at something about 20,000*l.*

On the whole it may be stated as a sufficiently close approximation to the truth, for practical purposes, that the revenue due to the taxation of the year fell short of the ordinary expenditure of the year by more than 60,000*l.*

The difference between the actual receipts and actual expenditure within the year, viz., 68,238*l.* 10s. 11d. was met partly by loans, and partly out of the cash balances of the Colony, which amounted,—

	£	s.	d.
At 30th September 1865 to	-	-	-
At 30th September 1866 to	-	-	-
Showing a diminution of	-	-	-
The increase in public debt on loans	-	-	-
being	£37,100	0	0
Less decrease in deposits	-	-	-
	2,634	2	3
	34,465	17	9
Total deficit	-	-	-
	68,238	10	11

JAMAICA.

The year 1865-66 is but one of a series of years in which the annual accounts show a succession of deficits, both in respect of gross charges and of ordinary charges alone, which it was the practice to meet by new loans, raised year after year.

The following table affords an analysis of the financial accounts for the years from 1861-62 to 1865-66 :—

TABLE.

Years.	Excess of ordinary charges over gross revenues, (receipts of loans excluded).	Expenditure from loans and funds raised for special purposes.	Gross excess of expenditure.	Loans raised, and increase of deposits payable.	Paid off by sinking funds.	Cash balance at the close of the year.	Total receipts of revenue.
1861-2	3,376 2 5	31,320 0 0	34,696 2 5	36,275 8 10	14,212 6 0	63,307 14 5	338,238 4 2
1862-3	7,569 7 11	33,708 5 0	41,277 12 11	34,911 6 3	14,962 6 0	56,941 7 9	344,760 1 10
1863-4	14,016 11 7	25,887 0 0	39,903 11 7	36,317 12 8	15,637 6 0	53,355 8 10	333,496 13 1
1864-5	19,587 6 2	25,630 0 0	45,217 6 2	33,995 2 0	16,492 6 0	42,133 4 8	334,877 5 10
1865-6	27,519 8 7	40,719 2 4	68,238 10 11	34,465 17 9	14,212 6 0	8,360 11 6	327,359 3 7
Total -	72,068 16 8	157,264 7 4	229,333 4 0	175,965 7 6	75,516 10 0	224,098 7 2	1,678,731 8 6
Annual Average }	14,413 15 4	31,452 17 5	45,866 12 9	35,193 1 6	15,103 6 0	44,819 13 5	335,746 5 8

My first consideration on assuming this Government was to devise means by which the expenditure of the Colony might be brought within the limits of the revenue. It was obvious that for this purpose recourse must be had to increased taxation. After effecting every retrenchment immediately practicable, and allowing for certain improvements in the departments of Police and Justice, which were of immediate and vital necessity, the Financial Secretary, in his estimates for the year 1866-67, calculated that it would be still necessary to provide by new taxes for a deficit of about 20,000*l.* As the measures for this purpose were adopted in the course of the current year 1867, they will fall to be noticed in my report on the Blue Book for this year.

Public Debt.

The total debt of the Island on 30th September 1866 amounted to 908,308*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, as shown by the following table :—

Debt at 30th September 1866.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Curates' fund	-	-	-	23,867	19	1
Rectors' fund	-	-	-	27,321	6	11
Apprentices' valuation	-	-	-	2,168	5	5
					53,357	11 5
{ Guaranteed loan, 17 Vict. cap. 29.	-	-	500,000	0	0	
{ Immigration guaranteed loan, 15 Vict. cap. 39.	-	-	50,000	0	0	
{ Ditto, ditto, 15 & 16 Vict., 2nd moiety	-	-	50,000	0	0	
				600,000	0	0
Loan, 18 Vict. cap. 66. Annotto Bay Junction road	-	-	8,600	0	0	
Loan, 21 Vict. cap. 44., and 22 Vict. cap. 24.	-	-	32,150	0	0	
Main road loan, 21 Vict. cap. 34.	-	-	50,100	0	0	
Main road new loan, 24 Vict. cap. 26.	-	-	37,250	0	0	
Loan, 26 Vict. sess. 2, cap. 5., further to main roads	-	-	12,000	0	0	
Immigration Loan Act, 1858	-	-	12,138	0	0	
Loan, 26 Vict. sess. 2. cap. 20.—Repairs	-	-	15,000	0	0	
Tramroad Acts, 1858-62.	-	-	5,050	0	0	
Loan, 27 Vict. cap. 24.—Roads and bridges	-	-	23,989	0	0	
Loan, 27 Vict. cap. 37.—Further repairs, &c.	-	-	11,750	0	0	
Loan, 28 Vict. cap. 24.—Kingston streets	-	-	6,950	0	0	
Loan, 28 Vict. cap. 26.	-	-	8,900	0	0	
Loan, 29 Vict. cap. 4.—Rebellion	-	-	31,600	0	0	
				255,481	0	0
				£908,838	11	5

Of this total, 53,357*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, being the amount of the rectors' and curates' funds, and the apprentices' valuation, are permanent investments at 6 per cent.; 600,000*l.* has been raised under Imperial guarantee, and bears interest at 4 per cent., with 2 per cent. for sinking fund.

The remainder of the debt, amounting to 255,481*l.*, forms a debenture debt at 6 per cent. interest, for great part of which sinking funds at 2 per cent. per annum are provided.

The charge for interest and sinking fund for the year ending 30th September 1866 (exclusive of a sum of 2,900*l.* for sinking funds due in 1865, but accidentally left unpaid within that year), amounted to 65,115*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* To this has to be added the sum of 5,556*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* for annuities to charities, &c., in lieu of interest on their investments, making a total charge for the year of 70,472*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*

Against the total debt of 908,834*l.*, has to be set off as assets the amounts of the several sinking funds. The payments to those funds amounted at 30th September 1866 to 151,517*l.*

Militia, Volunteers, Police, and Constabulary.

The militia is not embodied.

The volunteers at the close of 1866 mustered nominally 42 corps, numbering 1,663 men of all ranks. Many of these corps, however, had been represented to me as disorganized and inefficient, and the result of a subsequent inspection of the force has been that I have found it necessary to disband the greater part of it. It has now been reduced to 15 companies, comprising 510 men.

Police.

The inefficiency of the police was a fact which I found on my assumption of the government to be universally admitted. It was proved in a lamentable manner in the disturbance of 1865, when the police had as little knowledge beforehand of the storm that had been brewing, as they had power to withstand it when it broke out; and for ordinary purposes the inefficiency of the police soon forced itself on my notice. Measures were therefore taken for the reorganization of the police. A law authorizing the formation of a force very much on the model of the Irish constabulary has been passed by the Colonial Legislature, and has received Her Majesty's assent. It will form one of the subjects of my report for 1867.

Imports and Exports.

			£	s.	d.
The imports for 1865 amounted to	-	-	1,050,984	0	0
For 1866 to	-	-	1,030,796	0	0
Decrease	-	-	20,188	0	0

This slight falling off preceded a crisis in 1867, which has resulted in very numerous bankruptcies and a general collapse of trade. For several years past a system of over-trading upon fictitious capital, having met with undue encouragement, has been carried on to a great extent. The year under report closed this period of unwholesome inflation. A painful but necessary stringency has now succeeded, the results of which are lamentably apparent in the Customs revenue of 1866-67. But trade is now in a more healthy state than it has been for a long time past, though restricted in extent.

			£	s.	d.
The exports for 1865 were	-	-	912,004	0	0
For 1866 -	-	-	1,152,898	0	0
Increase	-	-	240,894	0	0

It is satisfactory to observe that for several years past there has been a progressive increase in the exports of all the principal staples of the Island. From the following return of the principal exports from 1830 to 1866, it will be seen that the exports of sugar and rum in 1866 were the largest since 1862; of coffee, the largest (with the exception of the crop of 1862) since 1857; of ginger, the largest since 1850; while the export of woods is the largest that has been known. It will be seen on examination of the return, that the trade in woods has sprung up within the last 30 years, and that it has increased from 895 tons of the value of 2,685*l.* in 1839, to 37,116 tons of the value of 74,232*l.* in 1866. Of this total export of 37,116 tons, 30,812 tons consisted of logwood; 1,195 tons of fustic; 284 tons of lignum vitæ; the remainder consisting of

JAMAICA.

bitter wood, ebony, quassia mahogany, and non-enumerated woods. There has also been a small export of spars to the number of 1,502.

Coins, &c.

The currency is English silver. American half and quarter dollars were also current until recently, but the Colonial Bank having refused to accept them, except at a heavy discount, they at once fell out of circulation.

The Colonial Bank is a bank of issue; and the average circulation of its notes in 1866 is stated at 92,154*l*. The notes are redeemable in silver.

Considerable inconvenience is felt from the want of a coin of lower denomination than the silver three-halfpenny bit. This want inflicts a considerable hardship on the poorer classes, and it operates to prevent the sale of articles of which the value is less than 1½*d*., as the negroes will not take copper coin; but it is in contemplation to introduce a small coinage of nickel or other white, cleanly, and inodorous metal.

General Remarks.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that perfect tranquillity was maintained in the Colony during the year 1866, and has been maintained up to the present time. A state of contentment and of willing obedience to the law, in striking contrast with the state of feeling reported to have existed in 1865, has shown itself not only in an absence of all riotous spirit, but in a great diminution of ordinary crime. Two cases only have occurred since my assumption of the Government in August 1866, in which any precautions against a breach of the public peace was necessary. The first of these cases occurred in the first week after my arrival. It was an alleged serious riot on the estate of Hopewell, in which it was represented that the house of the proprietor had been broken into, and that other mischief had been done by the rioters. The investigation which I instituted into this affair showed that the story had been considerably exaggerated; that the disturbance was provoked by the conduct of the overseer in capriciously refusing to pay their wages to the labourers of the estate, after he had collected the men for the purpose of paying them; and that upon payment being made to them, the labourers went quietly away and the affair ended. Fifty-five of the people were subsequently brought up on trial at the Circuit Court, but all of them were acquitted.

The other case to which I refer is the ejection of the squatters from Hartland's Estate, near Spanish Town. Previously to my arrival these squatters had resisted the surveyors sent by the proprietor to run the lines of the property, and Sir H. K. Storks found it necessary to send a force of 150 soldiers in support of the police, in order to enforce obedience to the law. Subsequently to my arrival the proprietor obtained a writ of ejection, but the squatters opposed the Deputy Marshal, and he was unable to execute the writ. However, by clearly explaining to them their position, and the hopelessness of any resistance to the law, the people were induced to give an assurance that no resistance would be offered; and the writ was peaceably executed by the Deputy Marshal, who went to Hartlands for the purpose, unaccompanied by a single policeman. These people have been perfectly quiet ever since, and I believe they have come to terms with the owner of the land. With the exception of these two cases, I am not aware of any incident during the year of sufficient general interest to deserve mention here.

The crops of 1866, both of sugar and coffee, as shown by the return of exports, were decidedly above the average of recent years; and although considerable depression began to be felt towards the close of the year, from the failure of trade, which has since increased, and has seriously affected the portion of the Public Revenue which is derived from the duties on imports, still that depression may be fairly regarded as temporary, and a healthier trade may be expected to take the place of that which of late years has been conducted in Jamaica. The production of sugar is indeed lamentably disproportionate to the natural capabilities of the Island, to the relative production of neighbouring Islands; and to the production of Jamaica itself in times past, under an artificial system of protection. But the downward tendency of this staple seems arrested; and of other produce a progressive increase appears to be taking place, which affords ground for anticipating a gradual advance in the material wealth and prosperity of the country. If only some reasonable settlement of the land question were effected I am convinced that the advance would be astonishing.

December 25, 1867.

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

9

PORT OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

A RETURN of the UNDERMENTIONED EXPORTS from the several PORTS in this ISLAND, in each Year, from 1830 to 1866.

JAMAICA.

Financial Year for,—	SUGAR.				RUM.			
	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.
	Hhds.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	Pnchns.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1831	94,881	1,233,453 2 6	—	—	36,411	400,521 4 3	—	—
1832	98,686	1,282,918 1 3	—	—	33,685	370,535 3 2	—	—
1833	85,101	1,106,313 4 5	—	—	34,976	384,736 1 5	—	—
1834	84,756	1,101,828 3 4	—	—	32,111	353,221 7 6	—	—
1835	77,970	1,013,610 8 3	—	—	27,530	302,830 4 2	—	—
1836	67,094	872,222 5 6	—	—	20,536	225,896 3 5	—	—
1837	61,505	799,565 7 6	—	—	21,976	241,736 8 3	—	—
1838	69,613	904,969 11 2	6d. per cwt.	24,861 15 8	25,380	279,180 3 2	1d. per gal.	9,517 10 0
1839	49,243	640,159 5 3	5d. per cwt.	14,655 13 0	16,072	176,792 12 6	"	6,027 0 0
1840	33,066	429,858 9 2	"	9,841 1 5	11,472	126,192 5 8	"	4,302 0 0
1841	34,491	448,383 12 3	1d. per cwt.	2,053 0 9	11,769	129,459 4 3	½d. per gal.	1,103 6 9
1842	50,295	658,835 4 7	—	—	16,566	182,226 11 8	—	—
1843	44,169	574,197 2 3	—	—	15,046	165,506 3 4	—	—
1844	34,444	447,772 6 5	—	—	11,631	127,941 7 5	—	—
1845	47,926	623,038 11 8	—	—	16,997	186,967 6 3	—	—
1846	36,223	470,899 4 1	—	—	14,394	158,334 10 3	—	—
1847	48,554	631,202 3 4	—	—	18,077	198,847 13 4	—	—
1848	32,045	416,585 5 4	—	—	19,552	215,072 7 6	—	—
1849	40,672	528,736 12 6	—	—	16,367	180,037 5 3	—	—
1850	36,038	468,494 10 3	—	—	15,581	171,391 11 3	—	—
1851	40,270	523,510 13 6	—	—	18,481	203,291 4 8	—	—
1852	34,449	447,837 12 4	—	—	15,703	172,733 9 4	—	—
1853	29,199	379,587 4 2	2s. 9d. per hhd.	3,011 2 11	10,484	115,324 2 6	2s. per phn.	786 6 0
1854	32,729	425,477 3 11	"	4,500 4 9	18,646	205,106 7 3	"	1,864 12 0
1855	28,715	373,295 7 8	"	3,948 6 3	19,646	216,106 5 4	"	1,964 12 0
1856	25,972	337,636 15 3	"	3,571 3 0	14,482	159,302 0 3	"	1,448 4 0
1857	30,459	395,967 6 8	"	4,188 2 3	15,997	175,967 4 2	"	1,599 14 0
1858	33,032	429,416 4 2	"	4,541 18 0	18,193	200,123 13 6	"	1,819 6 0
1859	28,750	373,750 5 3	"	3,953 2 6	16,213	178,343 5 8	"	1,621 6 0
1860	34,774	452,062 14 2	"	4,781 8 6	19,205	211,255 6 7	"	1,920 10 0
1861	35,064	455,832 12 6	2s. 9d. and 3s.	6,951 2 0	20,673	227,403 13 5	2s. and 2s. 6d.	3,359 7 3
1862	36,757	477,841 2 3	"	10,567 12 9	19,873	218,603 11 2	"	4,471 8 6
1863	33,372	433,836 5 2	"	9,594 9 0	17,274	190,014 14 6	"	3,886 13 0
1864	28,593	371,709 2 1	"	8,220 9 9	13,597	149,567 8 4	"	3,059 6 6
1865	26,814	348,582 7 5	"	7,709 0 6	14,586	160,446 5 6	"	3,281 17 0
1866	34,305	514,575 0 0	"	9,862 13 9	19,434	194,340 0 0	4s. 6d. per phn.	4,372 13 0

continued.

Financial Year for,—	COFFEE.				PIMENTO.			
	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.
	Lbs.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	Lbs.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1831	22,256,950	445,139 0 0	—	—	5,500,620	45,838 10 0	—	—
1832	14,055,350	281,107 0 0	—	—	3,172,320	26,436 0 0	—	—
1833	19,815,010	396,300 4 0	—	—	4,024,800	33,540 0 0	—	—
1834	9,866,860	197,337 4 0	—	—	8,423,100	70,192 10 0	—	—
1835	17,725,731	354,514 12 5	—	—	3,731,400	31,095 0 0	—	—
1836	10,593,018	211,860 7 3	—	—	7,284,660	60,705 10 0	—	—
1837	22,401,231	448,024 12 5	—	—	11,758,560	97,988 0 0	—	—
1838	13,551,795	271,035 18 0	1s. 6d. per cwt.	9,074 17 3	2,708,640	22,572 0 0	—	—
1839	8,897,421	177,948 8 5	1s. 3d. per cwt.	4,965 1 4	3,812,760	31,773 0 0	—	—
1840	9,410,186	188,203 14 5	"	5,251 4 6	3,569,460	29,745 10 0	—	—
1841	6,433,370	128,667 8 0	3d. per cwt.	718 0 2	3,579,180	29,826 10 0	—	—
1842	7,185,975	142,719 10 0	—	—	4,091,760	34,098 0 0	—	—
1843	7,367,113	147,342 5 2	—	—	3,546,720	29,556 0 0	—	—
1844	7,148,775	142,975 10 0	—	—	1,462,440	12,187 0 0	—	—
1845	5,021,209	100,424 3 8	—	—	7,181,220	59,843 10 0	—	—
1846	6,047,150	120,943 0 0	—	—	2,997,060	24,975 10 0	—	—
1847	6,421,122	128,422 8 10	—	—	2,800,140	23,334 10 0	—	—
1848	5,412,327	108,246 10 10	—	—	4,627,920	38,566 0 0	—	—
1849	3,430,228	68,604 11 2	—	—	7,042,020	58,683 10 0	—	—
1850	5,042,417	100,848 7 2	—	—	4,824,720	40,206 0 0	—	—
1851	5,595,273	111,905 9 4	—	—	4,524,072	37,700 12 0	—	—
1852	7,127,780	142,555 12 0	—	—	5,447,203	45,393 7 2	—	—
1853	5,017,689	100,353 15 10	2s. per tierce.	280 0 2	4,679,105	38,992 10 10	4d. per 120 lbs.	487 8 1
1854	3,990,672	79,813 8 10	"	509 0 3	5,102,728	42,522 14 8	"	708 14 3
1855	5,657,101	113,142 0 5	"	721 11 4	7,662,573	63,854 15 6	"	1,064 4 5
1856	3,328,147	66,562 18 10	"	424 10 2	6,848,622	57,071 17 0	"	951 3 5
1857	7,095,623	141,912 9 5	"	905 1 4	8,719,748	72,664 11 4	"	1,911 1 4
1858	5,237,689	104,753 15 10	"	668 1 5	9,465,261	78,877 3 6	"	1,314 12 2
1859	5,399,925	107,998 10 0	"	688 15 4	4,809,847	40,082 1 2	"	668 0 2
1860	6,562,004	131,240 1 8	"	836 19 10	3,826,243	31,885 7 2	"	531 8 2
1861	6,766,954	135,339 1 8	2s. and 4s.	2,157 16 8	8,863,249	73,860 8 2	4d. and 6d.	2,615 17 7
1862	5,601,157	112,023 2 10	"	2,143 6 0	5,536,513	46,137 12 2	"	1,922 7 6
1863	8,485,731	169,714 12 5	"	3,247 1 10	4,466,855	37,223 15 10	"	1,550 19 10
1864	5,424,184	108,483 13 8	"	2,075 11 4	8,929,870	74,415 11 8	"	3,100 12 6
1865	6,402,405	128,048 2 0	"	2,449 18 0	4,574,823	38,123 10 6	"	1,588 9 2
1866	7,820,945	156,418 18 0	6s. p. tree. 7 cwt.	2,992 14 2	3,516,186	29,301 11 0	10d. per 120 lbs.	1,220 17 11

JAMAICA. *continued.*

Financial Year for.—	GINGER.				WOODS.				TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS.	TOTAL DUTY RECEIVED.
	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.		
	Cwts.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	Tons.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1831	15,213	30,426 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,155,377 16 9	—
1832	14,416	28,822 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,989,818 4 5	—
1833	21,032	42,064 0 0	—	—	2,859	8,577 0 0	—	—	1,971,530 9 10	—
1834	21,534	43,068 0 0	—	—	4,052	12,156 0 0	—	—	1,777,803 5 8	—
1835	26,575	53,150 0 0	—	—	2,543	7,629 0 0	—	—	1,762,829 4 10	—
1836	18,311	36,622 0 0	—	—	1,728	5,184 0 0	—	—	1,412,490 6 2	—
1837	92,680	185,360 0 0	—	—	1,745	5,235 0 0	—	—	1,777,909 8 2	—
1838	22,925	45,850 0 0	—	—	1,243	3,729 0 0	—	—	1,527,336 12 4	43,454 2 11
1839	14,904	29,808 0 0	1s. per cwt.	745 4 0	895	2,685 0 0	1s. per ton.	44 15 0	1,059,166 6 2	26,437 13 4
1840	14,228	28,456 0 0	—	711 8 0	1,704	5,112 0 0	—	85 4 0	807,567 19 3	20,190 17 11
1841	16,376	32,752 0 0	3d. per cwt.	204 14 0	1,858	5,574 0 0	3d. per ton.	23 4 6	774,662 14 6	4,102 6 2
1842	10,995	21,990 0 0	—	—	5,788	17,364 0 0	—	—	1,052,233 6 3	—
1843	9,403	18,806 0 0	—	—	4,638	13,914 0 0	—	—	949,321 10 9	—
1844	17,800	35,600 0 0	—	—	5,732	17,196 0 0	—	—	783,672 3 10	—
1845	16,861	33,722 0 0	—	—	6,923	20,769 0 0	—	—	1,024,764 11 7	—
1846	13,054	26,108 0 0	—	—	6,404	19,212 0 0	—	—	820,472 4 4	—
1847	11,826	23,652 0 0	—	—	6,624	19,872 0 0	—	—	1,025,330 15 6	—
1848	7,178	14,356 0 0	—	—	3,675	10,995 0 0	—	—	803,821 3 8	—
1849	9,730	19,460 0 0	—	—	3,814	10,842 0 0	—	—	866,363 18 11	—
1850	24,838	49,676 0 0	—	—	5,584	16,752 0 0	—	—	847,368 8 8	—
1851	10,506	21,012 0 0	—	—	6,938	20,814 0 0	—	—	918,233 19 6	—
1852	8,896	17,792 0 0	—	—	4,882	14,646 0 0	—	—	840,958 0 10	—
1853	5,164	10,328 0 0	—	—	4,294	12,882 0 0	—	—	657,467 13 4	4,564 17 2
1854	6,340	12,680 0 0	—	—	7,619	22,857 0 0	—	—	788,456 14 8	7,582 11 3
1855	5,212	10,424 0 0	—	—	11,547	34,641 0 0	—	—	811,463 8 11	7,698 14 0
1856	3,113	6,226 0 0	—	—	19,760	59,280 0 0	—	—	686,079 11 4	6,395 0 7
1857	3,403	6,806 0 0	—	—	25,686	77,058 0 0	—	—	870,375 11 7	7,903 18 11
1858	6,336	12,672 0 0	—	—	14,196	42,588 0 0	—	—	868,430 17 0	8,343 17 7
1859	5,267	10,534 0 0	—	—	16,335	49,005 0 0	—	—	759,713 2 1	6,931 4 0
1860	9,386	18,772 0 0	—	—	17,590	52,770 0 0	—	—	897,985 9 7	8,070 6 6
1861	6,337	12,674 0 0	1s. per cwt.	158 8 6	18,681	56,043 0 0	1s. per ton.	467 0 6	961,152 15 9	15,709 12 6
1862	7,512	15,024 0 0	—	375 12 0	32,085	96,255 0 0	—	1,604 5 0	965,884 8 5	21,084 11 9
1863	7,210	14,420 0 0	—	360 10 0	31,245	93,735 0 0	—	1,562 5 0	938,944 7 11	20,201 18 8
1864	6,071	12,142 0 0	—	303 11 0	31,779	95,337 0 0	—	1,588 19 0	811,654 15 9	18,348 10 1
1865	9,045	18,090 0 0	—	452 5 0	28,109	84,327 0 0	—	1,405 9 0	777,617 5 5	16,886 18 8
1866	15,157	30,314 0 0	—	757 17 0	37,116	74,232 0 0	—	1,855 16 0	999,181 9 0	21,062 11 10

Average per Island Act :—A hogshead of sugar, 1,600 lbs. ; a puncheon of rum, 90 gals. ; a tierce of coffee, 784 lbs. ; a bag of pimento, 120 lbs.

N.B.—Export duty taken on only 9 months during 1853. The additional Export Duty commenced on 1st April 1861.

W. G. FREEMAN, *Collector.*

Custom House, Kingston, Jamaica, 26th November, 1866.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No. 2.

Lieutenant-Governor AUSTIN to Governor Sir JOHN P. GRANT, K.C.B.

(No. 130.)

Government House, Belize, August 10, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of 1866, and to report, thereon as follows :—

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

2. With exception of the following changes, which took effect on the 1st August 1866, the schedule of duties, dues, and taxes is as in the preceding year :—

Cattle	—	increased from \$1 to \$2 per head.
Cocoa	—	\$1 to \$2 per 100 lbs.
Malt liquors and cider	—	25 cents to 50 cents per imp. gallon.
Spirits and cordials	—	25 cents to 50 cents do.
Sugar, excise	—	75 cents to \$1 per 100 lbs.
Tea	—	12½ cents to 25 cents per lb.

BRITISH
HONDURAS.

No. 2.

Wines - - -	increased from 37½ cents to 75 cents per imp. gallon.	
Ditto, if of greater value than \$5 - -	50 cents to \$1.50	do.
Lumber, undressed	\$2 to \$3 per 1,000 feet.	
Ditto, dressed	Nil to \$4	do.
Unenumerated articles	3½ per cent. to 5 per cent.	
Dogs - - -	\$1 to \$3.	
Swine - - -	Nil to \$1.	

BRITISH
HONDURAS.*Revenue and Expenditure.*

3. The following is a statement, as taken principally from previous reports, of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last 10 years, but for the purpose of comparison it is scarcely to be relied upon, as both 1865 and 1866 were burthened with liabilities incurred in previous years.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1857 - - -	25,129	26,469
1858 - - -	27,848	24,127
1859 - - -	27,982	25,778
1860 - - -	32,575	30,270
1861 - - -	35,757	28,897
1862 - - -	27,299	32,175
1863 - - -	38,549	28,641
1864 - - -	31,544	28,364
1865 - - -	26,529	35,614
1866 - - -	27,333	31,094

The Interest on the Town Improvement Loan, amounting to 1,173*l.* 12*s.*, and the Indian raid expenditure of 1,274*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, have pressed heavily on the diminished resources of the Colony.

Public Debt.

4. The debt of the Colony on the 31st of December 1866 was 32,919*l.*, of which 19,480*l.* was raised under the Act of 1863 for the improvement of the town of Belize, and 13,439*l.* under the Act of 1864 for defraying in the first instance the expense of introducing immigrants into the Colony.

Militia and Volunteers.

5. A militia law was passed at the close of 1866, and was of great benefit during the recent disturbances in the northern and western districts. Elsewhere, from the great unpopularity of the service, little progress has as yet been made; but, having carried through the volunteer movement (which when originated was equally distasteful) with some success, I am sanguine, if sufficient funds can be secured, that the militia of the Colony will ere long be of sufficient strength to justify considerable reliance on its stability and protective powers. Acting in harmony with the volunteers, or in a spirit of wholesome rivalry, the one branch of the service should strengthen and stimulate the other.

Public Works.

6. Not only have no public works been undertaken this year, but even those commenced in previous years have been suspended from the influence of private and local interests, and those ever-changing opinions of legislators which have rendered a settled progressive policy as impossible during the present as through the late administration. Thus in the latter we have as monuments of waste an unfinished road in a northerly direction; iron swing bridges for the town which cannot be erected, and will have to be disposed of as old iron; a canal, the completion of which is considered unnecessary; and costly lanterns and lights which cannot be used at the stations without previous heavy outlay: whilst in the former we have an iron lighthouse rusting uselessly on the ground, and a road to the westward brought suddenly to a stop, although its completion would be of immense benefit as well to the town of Belize as to the agricultural interests of the Colony. Well, indeed, may foreigners look with wonder on a possession which, after

BRITISH
HONDURAS.

a lapse of nearly 200 years, is without one road to its capital, has no public building of any solidity save the gaol, and gives no token of the vast fortunes which have been realized from mahogany and trade.

Legislation.

7. The 19 Acts passed during the Session of 1866 had reference to the following purposes and objects:—

- 4, the collection and appropriation of Revenue.
- 2, the deportation of Aliens.
- 1, the Postal service.
- 5, the Police and Defence services.
- 2, the incorporation of Trading Companies, and the amending of the law of Partnership.
- 2, the enrolment of deeds, and the amendment of the law in respect to Judgments in the Supreme Court.
- 2, the appointment of a Clerk to the House of Assembly, and the regulation of the printing of its Bills.
- 1, the economical care of the Belize Fire-engines.

Political Branches—Council and Assembly.

8. However well adapted the present constitution might have been to the circumstances of the Colony when Belize was to all intents and purposes British Honduras, when agricultural pursuits were unknown, when all was one vast forest into which labourers were sent from Belize to bring down its valuable woods for export therefrom, and when the wealth and intelligence of the Colony was collected therein, and when there were no villages save those of Caribs or Indians,—nothing can be more prejudicial to the interests of the Colony, now that agriculture is making rapid strides both in the north and south, and that large investments are being made therein,—now that important townships and settlements are being established at Corosal, Orange Walk, and Indian Church in the north, and at Manatee, Sittee, Icacos and Seven Hills in the south,—and now, too, that wealthy and intelligent electors have been to a great extent superseded by uneducated petty traders, journeymen, and labourers,—than the almost exclusive possession of political power by the capital.

Impressed as the community appeared generally to be with the necessity of some change, I was not without hope that the present year might have witnessed considerable improvement; but a powerful interest thrown into the adverse scale has prevailed and the present rotten political system must yet endure for a while; it cannot last, however, the political edifice has been shaken by the attacks made upon it, and even the Belizeans must in time see that their own interests are concerned in the enforced substitution of thriving farms held by many, giving wealth and strength to the Colony at large, for pathless unemployed tracts occupied by few, giving shelter to the lawless, and draining all common resources in their guardianship.

If special proof was required of the utter inefficiency of the present form of government, nay, more, of its pernicious effect on the well-being of the Colony, what better or stronger evidence could be found than that exhibited in the minutes of the Legislature, showing as they do,—

1st. That a session already exceeding six months in length has only seen three or four hours devoted to business on each of the 56 occasions on which the House met.

2nd. That no attempt has been made to relieve the financial difficulties of the Colony or to provide for postal and other claims of a new and urgent character.

3rd. That one member has not thought fit to take his seat or to resign, whilst six others have deserted their posts.

4th. That the House has thus been reduced from 21 to 14, or to a number far below the requirements of a quorum of 11, when sickness and unavoidable absences are taken into account.

5th. That several members have thought fit but very rarely to attend even when in Colony and in town, and with little or no private business to transact.

Ecclesiastical and Educational.

9. No changes have taken place under the above heads during the year 1866, but an Act has been passed during the present session which will enable the Lieutenant-Governor hereafter to distribute the educational grant with more justice between town and country, and the different denominations.

Imports and Exports.

10. The imports and exports during the past ten years are as follows :—

BRITISH
HONDURAS.

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1857 - - - - -	268,692	440,272
1858 - - - - -	207,908	380,378
1859 - - - - -	175,293	283,101
1860 - - - - -	200,869	315,918
1861 - - - - -	231,744	292,576
1862 - - - - -	211,357	356,389
1863 - - - - -	265,751	390,643
1864 - - - - -	291,144	373,197
1865 - - - - -	210,675	323,169
1866 - - - - -	169,033	277,155

The following are the imports and exports in 1865 and 1866, from and to each country with which trade has been carried on :—

		Imports.	Exports.
		£	£
United Kingdom	- { 1865 -	130,426	220,076
	- { 1866 -	107,734	169,013
Jamaica	- { 1865 -	1,877	720
	- { 1866 -	1,347	4,000
United States	- { 1865 -	64,209	34,053
	- { 1866 -	47,461	30,344
Mexico	- { 1865 -	Nil.	3,445
	- { 1866 -	Nil.	4,655
Yucatan	- { 1865 -	2,892	26,312
	- { 1866 -	2,333	24,694
Spanish Honduras, Guatemala,	- { 1865 -	11,268	38,562
and other Countries	- { 1866 -	10,156	44,448

Agriculture.

11. The progress made under this head during the past year has been most cheering, four sugar estates, with an aggregate cultivation of 600 acres, having been established at Sittee, and one sugar estate at Seven Hills.

The practical planters who have lately visited the Colony in large numbers for the purpose of settling thereon have given, after laborious and searching explorations, very glowing accounts of the capabilities both of the south and of the west for sugar, coffee, tobacco, corn, plantains, fruits, &c. &c. And, as far as I am myself capable of forming opinions after a recent visit to the estates above mentioned, the representations which have been made are in no way too highly coloured. Judging only from the belt of mangrove swamps which skirted the whole coast and surrounded the town of Belize, it has long been assumed that British Honduras could be of no possible value when its mahogany works were exhausted, but facts are proving more potent than the opinions formed on wholly insufficient grounds, and although many years may yet elapse ere a state of agricultural infancy can be ripened into full vigour, there is already sufficient to justify the conclusions I have long formed and recorded in my despatches of the fitness of the Colony for farming operations.

Grants of Land.

12. The land sales during the year 1866 have only yielded 235*l.*, but the Crown Fund has been supplemented by rents and wood-cutting licences to the extent of 236*l.*

Fully convinced as I am that the revenues of the Crown lands should be very largely in excess of the paltry sum of 471*l.* thus received throughout the year, my inability effectually to deal with the whole question of land tenure, a searching inquiry into which can alone recover the Crown lands most improperly occupied by the great land-owners, is very mortifying; but whenever an opportunity offers I assert the rights of the Crown unflinchingly without regard to the unpopularity which it entails. Thus, I have called upon one party to disgorge 31½ square miles, which he induced the Registrar to give him by the substitution in the *primâ facie* title of a "bank" of only 300 yards in

BRITISH
HONDURAS.

depth for a "mahogany location" of eight miles in depth; and I have also caused notice to be given to another party to the effect that I intend, as Her Majesty's representative, to resume and take immediate possession of the 96 square miles over which he has sought to obtain proprietary rights by means of a *primâ facie* title founded on a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald giving occupancy of the lands only during pleasure, and for the purpose only of cutting mahogany thereon.

The present Registrar informs me that *primâ facie* titles have been issued chiefly on bills of sale without any inquiry as to the right of the party selling, and not only without proof of possession, but actually in one known instance in the face of adverse possession; but how to deal generally with such transactions is most difficult to decide, as under the 8th section of the 24th Vict. cap. 18, the evidence on which *primâ facie* titles were granted is not open to inspection.

In individual cases, such as those to which I have referred, and on which I had information justifying action, I need not hesitate to demand, as I have now done, copies of the evidence under the 33rd section of the 24th Vict. cap. 18; but to call for copies of the evidence on which all titles have been granted, for the express purpose of challenging any and every acquisition adverse to the strictly legal rights of the Crown, would scarcely perhaps be prudent without specific instructions.

Gaols.

13. The gaol is clean, well ventilated, and under efficient superintendence internally; but without the walls the enforcement of general discipline is anything but satisfactory. I trust, however, that the abolition of the irresponsible Board of Management which is now contemplated, and the substitution of more direct executive authority, will soon bring about a salutary change.

The greatest number of prisoners in gaol at any one time throughout the year was 101, but the average number was below 80, and the accommodation has fully sufficed at all times.

General.

14. The health of the Colony has been unexceptionably good throughout the whole year, as well amongst all classes as in all localities; but trade has suffered severely, not only from the continued decrease of the export of mahogany, but also from the frequent and lengthy interruptions of the postal service.

In the month of December the peace of the Colony was disturbed by the traitorous union of the Indians and Yucatecan refugees long resident in the western district with the marauding bands of Indians scattered along the western and northern frontiers. The gallantry and endurance of Her Majesty's troops, and their skilful employment by Brigadier-General Harley, have driven the enemy from the Colony, and have again placed us in possession of the tracts from which we were temporarily driven; but with exception of the sugar settlement at Indian Church no attempt has as yet been made by the Colonists to resume their labours. Exposed as the mahogany cutters must always be in districts so remote, and difficult of access and of combined defensive movements, depreciated too in value as mahogany has become, and expensive as its transport is proving from exhaustion of the forests close on the banks of the rivers and navigable streams, it is doubtful whether this branch of industry will be again resumed on anything approaching its former scale; and perhaps it is as well for the interests of the Colony that such should be the case, as an employment which drains off resources and capital without reproduction, as in agriculture, can only end in complete exhaustion. Already, one of the great landed proprietors has given evidence of his adhesion to such views, as well in the withdrawal of his mahogany gangs as in the gratuitous offer of lands to agricultural settlers; and should his anticipations be realized, as there is every reason to conclude they will be from the constant arrival of settlers, these splendid lands, hitherto unknown along the western frontier of the Colony, may give in their agricultural development a stability which could never have been dreamt of a few years back.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B. (Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN.
&c. &c. &c.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir JOHN PETER GRANT, K.C.B., to
his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 90.)

MY LORD DUKE,

King's House, Jamaica, August 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace herewith a Despatch from the President of Turks Islands forwarding the Blue Book for the year 1866.

No. 72, of 11
July 1867.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

(No. 72.)

SIR,

Government House, Grand Turk, July 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

2. There has been no alteration in the sources of revenue during the past year.

General Revenue.

3. The revenue for the year 1866 was from—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Imports	5,177	5	6			
Light duties	932	16	0			
Exports	4,022	17	10			
Auction duties	259	9	6			
Other sources	1,187	5	8			
				11,579	14	6

and that for 1865 was from—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Imports	4,955	5	4			
Light duties	695	4	4			
Exports	2,606	19	4			
Auction duties	244	8	7			
Other sources	1,463	8	11			
				9,965	6	6

Showing an increase of - - - - - 1,614 8 0
in favour of the immediately past year, and the largest "general revenue" ever realized in the course of one year since the birth of the Colony in 1848.

	£	s.	d.
The expenditure for the same period was in 1866	9,520	8	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
" " " 1865	9,141	3	11

Also showing an increase of 379 4 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ in 1866 over that of 1865. The balance in the public chest on the 31st December 1866 was 5,482*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*

Crown Revenue.

4. The Crown Revenue, derived from a duty of 10 per centum, ad valorem, on the salt exported from the Colony during the year, amounted

	£	s.	d.
to	3,488	8	6
From sales of Crown lands	27	19	5
" rent of ditto	10	0	0
" sales of water from tank	10	17	0
" sale of a horse	10	0	0
" sale of sundries	3	0	1
	3,550	5	0
Balance from 1865	1,421	12	1
	4,971	17	1

The expenditure consisted of—

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.		£	s.	d.
For lighthouse	- - - - -	446	12	2
„ new gaol	- - - - -	58	12	0
„ burial grounds	- - - - -	230	4	7
„ repair to buildings	- - - - -	897	5	1
„ roads and streets	- - - - -	1,182	2	7
„ canals and watercourses	- - - - -	73	7	8
„ water tanks and wells	- - - - -	117	9	2
„ miscellaneous	- - - - -	1,748	14	9
		4,754 18 0		
Leaving a balance of		-	-	-
		216 19 1		

to be carried forward for the services of the year 1867.

Imports and Exports.

	£	s.	d.
5. The value of imports during the year 1865 was	-	-	80,549 17 8
„ „ „ and in 1866 „	-	-	56,090 13 5
Showing a decrease of	-	-	24,459 4 3

Of this 23,552*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* are accounted for in diminished imports from the following countries, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain	-	3,425	15 8
Santo Domingo	-	17,783	11 1
United States	-	2,343	6 2
Being a decrease of	-	23,552	12 11

and is fairly attributable to the cessation of hostilities in the Island of Santo Domingo, causing a limited demand for dry goods and provisions, and a diminished import to this island of the mahogany and tobacco from Santo Domingo, which has now resumed its former channel to Europe and America, viâ the Island of St. Thomas. In provisions, the diminished imports are chiefly apparent in the articles of butter, flour, fish, lard, and salted meats.

	£	s.	d.
6. The value of exports during the year 1865 was	-	62,003	18 5
„ „ „ „ 1866	-	54,310	4 10
Being also a decrease of	-	7,693	13 7

The countries to which the falling off in exports is observable are the following :—

	£	s.	d.
To Great Britain	-	1,053	14 10
„ St. Thomas	-	1,942	16 7
„ Santo Domingo	-	7,363	4 9
10,359 16 2			

And the same reason may be assigned for this as for the decrease in imports. The export of our staple has, however, both in quantity and value, exceeded that of the previous year; thus,—

	Bushels Salt.	Value.
Exported in 1866	1,930,988	£37,193 3 1
„ „ 1865	1,251,344	26,841 0 11
Being an increase of	679,644	10,352 2 2

Of this increase the United States and the British North American Colonies have absorbed the greater quantity, viz. :—

		Bushels.	
United States in 1866	-	1,690,122	
British North American Colonies	-	183,368	
			1,873,490
		Bushels.	
United States in 1865	-	1,150,250	
British North American Colonies	-	67,108	
			1,217,358
Increase			656,132

The quantity and value of salt exported during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	Bushels.	Value.		
		£	s.	d.
1862 -	1,982,596	28,131	12	2
1863 -	1,434,230	21,578	5	6
1864 -	1,252,186	29,726	0	1
1865 -	1,251,344	26,841	0	11
1866 -	1,930,988	37,193	3	1

7. The falling off in the value of imports and exports does not, as will be observed by reference to the foregoing statements, injuriously affect the revenue to the extent which might be expected, as large quantities of merchandise during the year 1865 found in this Island only a temporary resting place, while passing through the warehouse free from all revenue charge in transitu to foreign markets. Payments to the labourer for landing and reshipping goods have necessarily diminished, and the circulation of money has been so far impeded, but import duties paid for articles entered for home consumption were larger by 222% in 1866 than those paid in the previous year.

Public Works.

8. The improvements and the increased accommodation in roads and buildings, which had been progressing for the last three years, were many of them swept away by the destructive hurriance on the 30th day of September 1866, but immediate steps were taken to repair as rapidly as possible the effects of the cyclone during the remaining three months of that year. An extraordinary expenditure from the Crown Fund was in consequence necessary; nothing however approaching to permanent order could be accomplished in so short a time, and a description of those works, some of which are now approaching completion, and others in course of construction, may properly be left to the compilation of the Blue Book for 1867, and its accompanying report.

Legislation.

9. Fourteen ordinances passed the Legislative Council; of those which received Her Majesty's confirmation the following are the titles :—

No. 1. To amend Ordinance No. 3 of 1849, entitled an Ordinance to constitute a Court of Chancery within the Turks and Caicos Islands.

No. 2. To amend the Supreme Court Ordinance No. 9 of 1852.

No. 3. To amend Ordinance No. 16 of 1849, entitled an Ordinance to regulate Appeals from summary convictions.

No. 5. To amend Ordinance No. 7 of 1856, entitled an Ordinance to extend the jurisdiction of the Police and Assistant Police Magistrates of this Presidency.

No. 6. To amend an Act of the Bahama Islands passed in the sixth year of the reign of King George the Fourth, to authorize the Bishop of Jamaica to exercise Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction over the Clergy of the Bahama Islands.

No. 7. To amend Ordinance No. 1 of 1858, regulating the registration of persons entitled to vote at the election of members to serve in the Council of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

No. 8. To amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1852 for securing the Public Health.

No. 9. To provide for the appropriation of divers sums of money to be paid from the Colonial Treasury for and towards defraying the contingent expenses of the Presidency of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1867.

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.

- No. 10. To provide a Civil list for the Turks and Caicos Islands.
 No. 12. To amend the Act for regulating the relative duties of Masters and Servants, for providing for the apprenticing of children, and for other purposes.
 No. 13. To authorize the removal from this Colony in certain cases of Aliens and other persons.
 No. 14. To provide for the repayment from the Colonial Treasury to the Crown Funds of divers sums of money advanced in consequence of the Hurricane of 30th September 1866, and for other purposes.

Legislative Council and Civil Establishment.

10. Of the four nominated members, who also constitute with the President an Executive Council, the junior, Mr. C. J. Stammers, died in the United States, where he had been advised to go for the benefit of his impaired health. The vacancy thus created was filled up by the appointment of the Colonial Secretary. The four elected members continued to hold their seats as in the previous year. Mr. M^cIntosh, who had been Colonial Secretary and clerk of the Council since the erection of these Islands into a separate Colony, also died at East Caicos, after many years suffering from a painful disease, and the vacant appointment was conferred upon Mr. Alex. C. Lowe, who had ably performed the duties of private secretary to the three Presidents of this Colony. Mr. Sullivan, the Police Magistrate and Provost Marshal at Grand Turk, received ordination at the hands of the Bishop of Nassau, and left the Colony. Mr. Moxey, J. P., now acts in that capacity, no gentleman having yet been nominated by the Governor-in-Chief to the office since Mr. Sullivan's departure. The Reverend M. M. Dillon, M.A., entered upon his duties as rector of St. Thomas, at Grand Turk, and the Reverend W. L. Glanville as incumbent of the parish of St. George, at East Caicos. There was no other change of importance in the Civil Establishment.

Population.

11. The Registrar's returns for the past year show that there were 203 births, 147 deaths, and 39 marriages. This is the third year during which similar compilations, approaching any degree of accuracy, have been obtained; and I now give abstracts of the births and deaths in the four divisions of the Colony, viz.:—

BIRTHS.

		Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		Total.
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Grand Turk	1864	30	24	14	13	81
	1865	29	38	9	10	86
	1866	36	34	15	15	100
Salt Cay	1864	11	7	3	6	27
	1865	12	9	7	3	31
	1866	10	11	3	4	28
East Caicos	1864	6	9	2	2	19
	1865	13	5	2	2	22
	1866	6	12	2	7	27
Lower Caicos	1864	14	22	7	12	55
	1865	21	20	2	4	47
	1866	13	21	4	10	48
Totals		201	212	70	88	571

DEATHS IN 1866.

		Under 1 year.		From 1 to 10 years.		From 11 to 20 years.		From 21 to 30 years.		From 31 to 40 years.		From 41 to 50 years.		From 51 to 60 years.		From 61 to 70 years.		Upwards of 70 years.		Total.
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Grand Turk	-	7	5	17	4	1	2	9	2	9	4	—	3	6	2	5	5	3	6	90
Salt Cay	-	2	2	3	2	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	18
East Caicos	-	—	3	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	10
Lower Caicos	-	1	1	5	7	4	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	8	29
Totals	-	10	11	26	13	7	5	12	3	11	7	1	4	7	2	6	5	5	12	147

CAUSES OF DEATH.

From drowning during the hurricane	-	-	-	-	29
„ being killed in the do.	-	-	-	-	19
„ injuries received during do.	-	-	-	-	3
„ dentition and infantile complaints	-	-	-	-	23
„ natural decay, old age, and infirmity	-	-	-	-	23
„ dysentery	-	-	-	-	22
„ inflammation of the bowels	-	-	-	-	11
„ consumption	-	-	-	-	7
„ croup	-	-	-	-	1
„ asthma	-	-	-	-	1
„ contusion	-	-	-	-	1
„ ulcer	-	-	-	-	1
„ dropsy	-	-	-	-	2
„ childbirth	-	-	-	-	1
„ epilepsy	-	-	-	-	2
„ apoplexy	-	-	-	-	1
Total	-	-	-	-	147

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.

MARRIAGES.

Districts.				1864.	1865.	1866.
Grand Turk	-	-	-	33	22	31
Salt Cay	-	-	-	6	3	5
East Caicos	-	-	-	4	4	1
Lower Caicos	-	-	-	14	5	2
Totals	-	-	-	57	34	39

The returns which I obtained from those appointed to prepare statistics with regard to the recent hurricane furnish me with the information that there were on shore and in dwellings throughout the Colony on the 30th September 1866, inmates numbering 4,391. Others were at sea, and a few either permanently removed, or temporarily resident in other places.

Education.

12. This return embraces the first nine months of the year only, all of the school buildings having been either entirely destroyed or devoted to shelter those rendered houseless by the hurricane. The total number of children on the school registers was 300, and the average attendance at the six schools was 213, including about 100 infants. The fees collected from the children amounted to 50*l.* 10*s.* 10½*d.*, and the expenditure from the Public Treasury to 725*l.* I cannot speak of these schools in those terms of commendation which I would be glad to do, but I have every reason to hope that the ordinance lately passed by the Legislative Council will, when in operation, be productive of a change for the better, and an infusion of new life and vigour in all the departments.

13. Shipping.

SHIPPING INWARDS.

YEAR.	BRITISH.			FOREIGN.		
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.
1865 - -	346	26,471	2,040	110	21,061	771
1866 - -	339	30,377	1,968	123	25,591	887

The totals show six vessels, 8,436 tons, and 44 men more in 1866 than in 1865.

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.

SHIPPING OUTWARDS.

YEAR.	BRITISH.			FOREIGN.		
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.
1865 - -	400	27,433	2,439	113	21,731	721
1866 - -	367	33,577	2,277	110	24,913	861

The totals show 36 vessels less, 9,326 tons more, and 22 men less in 1866 than in 1865.

Gaols and Prisons.

14. I am happy to be able to report a considerable decrease in crime, as exhibited in the various returns now before me. The convictions in the Police Court were as follows:—

	1865.	1866.
For criminal offences -	336	255
„ civil suits -	105	77
	441	332

The convictions, distinguishing those committed to gaol and those fined for the offences enumerated, were,—

	In 1865.			In 1866.		
	Total.	Committed.	Fined.	Total.	Committed.	Fined.
For assaults - - - -	60	12	48	50	10	40
Quarrelling and disturbing the peace -	44	10	34	60	9	51
Obscene and profane language - -	26	9	17	7	3	4
Larceny - - - -	34	23	11	24	10	14
Drunkenness - - - -	57	10	47	17	7	10
Abusive language - - - -	46	10	36	50	5	45
Malicious injury to property - -	9	—	9	4	—	4
Impeding constable in execution of his duty.	4	—	4	2	—	2
Allowing hogs to run at large - -	5	—	5	3	—	3
Gambling - - - -	12	—	12	4	—	4
Wantonly discharging fire-arms in public street.	—	—	—	1	—	1
Breach of prison rules ; 88th clause -	—	—	—	1	—	1
Indecent exposure of person - -	3	—	3	2	—	2
Furiously riding or driving in public street.	8	—	8	14	—	14
Seaman refusing to proceed on voyage -	5	—	5	8	—	8
Deserting lawful wife or refusing to maintain children.	7	—	7	—	—	—
Cruelty to animals - - - -	7	—	7	—	—	—
Obtaining goods under false pretences -	2	—	2	3	—	3
Breach of Revenue Laws, Ord. 11 of 1860.	—	—	—	1	—	1
Neglect of duty of constables - -	—	—	—	3	—	3
Attempting to pass counterfeit coin -	2	—	2	—	—	—
Breach of market rules - - - -	1	—	1	—	—	—
Throwing stones or missiles in public street.	4	—	4	—	—	—
Unlawfully washing self in public wells	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total number of civil suits - -	105	—	—	77	—	—
Total - - - -	441	74	262	332	44	211

The first six of these offences are believed to be perpetrated by about 150 of the most depraved of the community, who are brought before the magistrates several times in each year. In 1865 they numbered 146, and in 1866 the number is set down at 164, each individual having been convicted as shown in the following statement:—

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.

No. of Persons in 1865.				No. of Convictions.	
84	were convicted once	-	-	-	84
31	" twice	-	-	-	62
14	" thrice	-	-	-	42
11	" four times	-	-	-	44
2	" five "	-	-	-	10
3	" six "	-	-	-	18
1	was convicted seven "	-	-	-	7
Other offences enumerated in the previous Table				69	
Civil suits				105	
Total				441	

No. of Persons in 1866.				No. of Convictions.	
132	were convicted once	-	-	-	132
21	" twice	-	-	-	42
10	" thrice	-	-	-	30
1	was convicted four times	-	-	-	4
Other offences enumerated in the previous Table				47	
Civil suits				77	
Total				332	

The greatest number of prisoners in confinement at any one time in the year 1866 was 12, and those in confinement at Michaelmas 1866 numbered eight.

There were no felonies, and the total number of prisoners committed in the course of the year by the Supreme Court, the Police Court, and the Stipendiary Justice, was 57.

The aggregate number of days of confinement in gaol in 1865, was 3,873, and the number of days spent in confinement in gaol in 1866, was 1,794. The cost for maintenance of each prisoner, in the former year, was about 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per diem, and in the latter year, about 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per diem. There were no deaths in gaol during the year 1866.

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

15. These continue to afford that refuge and comfort for the poor and aged, and that assistance to study and research, which I have reported from time to time during the last four years previous to 1866.

General Remarks.

16. This report would be incomplete were but a casual reference made to the hurricane which passed over this Colony on the 30th day of September last. In various despatches addressed to your Excellency, I have reported at length upon the effects of this fearful storm, and of the steps adopted by me to repair injuries and alleviate human suffering. But it will not be out of place to here place on record an account of the principal facts connected with that visitation, of the losses sustained, and of the help extended towards the sufferers; and I shall endeavour to do so as briefly as possible.

17. From the best information I have been enabled to obtain, the gale passed close to the Island of St. Thomas on the 29th September. On the same evening the sky overhead, at this Island, gave indication of atmospheric disturbance, insomuch as to induce me to refer to a gentleman who had experienced four previous hurricanes, and to inquire if the wild-looking appearance of the weather did not indicate such a storm; but neither he nor others were of that opinion. I, however, have since ascertained from a gentleman who happened to be on a plantation to the north of this Island, and also from the fishermen, that certainly on Saturday, some say on Friday, the sea around the shore assumed a muddy appearance, and that the waves, instead of coming in in a regular roll, had the appearance of disturbance, as if "*boiling up*." The North Creek also is said to have risen two feet on Saturday, which increased to six feet during the

subsequent storm. A similar effect is mentioned by Colonel Reid as having occurred around the Bermuda Islands, in September 1839.

During the night, the wind increased, and the barometer, which stood at $29^{\circ} 80'$ when I retired to rest, had sunk to $29^{\circ} 40'$ before daylight on Sunday morning; the wind was then blowing from north to north-east, and a heavy sea was running; the former steadily increased, and about 9 o'clock it was accompanied by a deluge of rain, which continued, with the increase of the storm, till between 12 and 1 o'clock, when both rather suddenly ceased, and the barometer marked $28^{\circ} 50'$.

18. From subsequent information from the coast of Santo Domingo and Nassau, I am led to the belief that the diameter of the cyclone, while passing over Turks Islands, must have been not less than 200 miles, and that its progression to the west-north-west was at the rate of about 20 miles an hour.

19. We were now in the vortex of the storm, and the calm was so great, and the pressure of the atmosphere was diminished so much at Salt Cay, seven miles to the south of this Island, as to permit of a lighted candle to burn, with an elongated and sickly flame, in the open air. This lull lasted about 30 minutes; but being busily engaged at that time, I cannot record this with certainty. The hurricane then sprung up with renewed violence from the south-east, gradually drawing to the southward, but not accompanied by rain, and the barometer shortly afterwards marked its lowest at $27^{\circ} 20'$. Colonel Reid remarks, "In these gyrations it sometimes happens that the barometer falls as much as two inches," but in the case of the storm, I now attempt to describe, the barometer fell 2.60 inches within 12 hours. At about 1.30 p.m. the barometer began to rise rapidly, until 8 o'clock, when it had reached 29° , and afterwards more gradually, till, at 10 o'clock the same night, it had resumed its position of the previous night, at $29^{\circ} 80'$. These readings from my aneroid have been subsequently corroborated by those from two excellent marine barometers in different situations in town, between two and three miles distant from Government House.

20. Many people assert that the continuation of the storm from the southward was more violent than that from the northward. I incline to this opinion myself, but the truth is, that the force of the wind was so terrific, from both quarters, that it would be difficult to determine the point without the scientific appliances necessary for its measurement. Certain it is, however, that more damage occurred on shore during the latter than during the former half of the hurricane; the wind came down more in heavy gusts than in a continuous blow, and more houses and large trees were destroyed during the prevalence of these gusts than by the previous wind from the northward.

21. On the day following the hurricane I rode over the town of Grand Turk, where the inundation of the sea, or the many obstructions presented by ruined property, would permit. Here, houses and buildings of all kinds had been torn down, wholly or partially destroyed, many unroofed, some to windward, some to leeward, others twisted round at all angles than that at which they had been built; all sorts of lumber and furniture scattered about or lying in heaps; roads and salt ponds in some places an unbroken sheet of water; other roads and streets cut into, and many so blocked up with débris as to be passable only with great difficulty. Of public buildings, the lighthouse keepers dwellings, the poor house, the gaol, the Council chambers, the armoury, the public schools, the quarantine hospital, and Government House, were either wholly or partially destroyed, or greatly injured.

22. The Islands of Grand Turk and Salt Cay mainly run in length from north to south. On the eastern shore, coral reefs extend seaward for a considerable distance, and cliffs of limestone, of from 40 to 60 feet high, protect the Islands from the almost constant rough action of the waves raised by the prevailing east winds. On the western shore, and extending from the sea, landwards, about 100 to 150 yards, a ridge of sand, varying from five to 12 feet in height, has accumulated, and having, in the course of years, been augmented by collections of stone, wood, and the usual traffic of man, has presented, in many places, a passable foundation; and on these ridges the best buildings in the Colony have from time to time been erected. Many proprietors have also improved their front lots, by building stone sea walls or abutments, and filling in as solidly as possible the spaces between these and their dwellings. At Grand Turk and Salt Cay not one of these protections remain uninjured; and at the latter place nearly all have been completely demolished. Behind these ridges the salt pond and pans extend, and still further inland, and on scattered rising spots of ground, the labourers' dwellings are principally built.

Having thus endeavoured to convey some idea of the physical features of these two Islands, it will be understood what utter ruin must have been the inevitable consequence if the wind, during the cyclone, had gone further round to the westward than it did. Even as it was, the violence and height of the waves were such as to make a clear breach in three several places through the ridge at Salt Cay, and rolling over the salt pans, they were met by the ocean waters, which had been forced from the eastward through a creek situated at the south-east end of the Island. The centre of that Island was, therefore, for a time, one turbulent sheet of water, and it is most wonderful that only five lives were lost there, amidst the almost universal wreck. On visiting the church and several of the buildings situated on this ridge, I saw distinctly on the limewashed walls the highest mark of the risen water, and measured it at four feet from the floor of the police cells, which are on a level with the principal road running between the ridge and the salt pans. All the low buildings, and the ground stories of the higher houses, were washed through by the sea, and the consequent demolition of furniture and clothing was large. Here, as at the other islands, the demand for our staple was, during last year excessive; and very many of the labourers were thus enabled to help themselves, while the really destitute were fed to the best of my ability from the soup kitchens. That at Salt Cay I visited, and found the food prepared for these poor people good and wholesome. At East Harbour, I observed similar scenes of ruin and destruction of buildings, wind machines, and other property, which had been presented to me at Grand Turk and Salt Cay. The town there, however, is much better sheltered from any effects of the sea than that at either of the other Islands, being situated on the inner side of the harbour, which is protected on the east and south-east by Dove Cay and Long Cay.

23. Having appointed at each of the Islands public officers and other gentlemen to make a house-to-house visitation, in order to put me in a position to forward to Her Majesty's Government as correct an account of all particulars connected with this catastrophe as could be procured, I have been enabled, from time to time, to report what information I thus received; and, so far as I can judge from personal observation, the following is as reliable a summary of the injury sustained and loss of life, as could under all the circumstances be prepared.

SUMMARY of the LOSSES and INJURIES sustained in the Turks and Caicos Islands from the Hurricane on Sunday, 30th September 1866.

	No. of Dwelling-houses destroyed.	No. of Out-houses destroyed.	No. of Tanks injured.	No. of Inmates.	No. of Inmates killed.	No. of Inmates seriously injured.	No. of Inmates slightly injured.	No. of Salt-houses destroyed.	Horses killed.	Mules killed.	Donkeys killed.	Horned Cattle killed.	Goats killed.	Pigs killed.	Wind Machines destroyed.	Foreign Vessels destroyed.	Colonial Vessels destroyed.	Open Boats destroyed.	Lives lost at Sea.	Bushels of Salt destroyed.	Other Property destroyed.	Estimated Value of Houses damaged and destroyed, as well as other Property lost.
Grand Turk	335	385	147	2,225	19	22	138	6	2	6	1	9	7	14	8	1	5	24	29	480,500		£ 38,423
Salt Cay	98	69	66	702	4	—	13	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	7	3	12		349,650		21,323
East Harbour	78	29	15	487	—	—	22	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	1	2	8		152,200		6,080
Leeward Caicos	206	119	—	1,027	2	—	11	—	—	—	2	22	—	25	—	—	17	48		—		10,029
	717	602	228	4,391	25	22	184	11	2	9	3	32	7	39	19	9*	27	92	42	982,350	Furniture, Lumber, Shingles, Clothing, Quantity not ascertained.	75,860*

* Value of Foreign Vessels not included.

24. On the 2nd October I appointed a relief committee at Grand Turk, and branch committees at Salt Cay, and East Harbour, and established soup kitchens for the support of the really destitute, employing the able-bodied in removing the wreck and in repairing roads and enclosure walls. I also gave assistance to the salt pond proprietors by opening their canals to the sea, and in some few instances in replacing the injured dwellings of the needy on their old foundations. The soup kitchens I supported for two months from Crown Funds, until the several relief committees were put in funds from abroad, when the duty devolved upon them.

25. It is now my pleasing duty to record the generous donations contributed by Her Majesty's Government, by friends in Great Britain and in the sister Colonies, and by the charitable in foreign countries, and the manner of distribution or disbursement up to this date. Many of these have subscribed from their abundance, others have given out of their straitened circumstances, and while some were actually suffering from the same or equally distressing calamity, yet they failed not to nobly assist in the pleasing duty of clothing the destitute, feeding the hungry, and housing the houseless. The grateful prayer of all here is "May God and man succour them in the time of their adversity."

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.

Dr.	RELIEF COMMITTEE in account with RELIEF FUND.				Cr.	
1866.					1866.	
To cash advanced from the Crown Funds by his Honour President Moir, and subsequently refunded from the Colonial Chest under authority of Ordinance No. 14 of 1866	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Antigua—Drafts -	-	208	0	0		
Premium -	-	3	12	8		
				211	12	8
„ BAHAMAS :						
Nassau—Provisions -	-	28	0	0		
Inagua—Cash, provisions, &c. -	-	31	9	11		
				59	9	11
„ Bangor, U.S.—Cash and clothing -	-	—	—	34	15	2
„ Barbados—Drafts -	-	138	11	9		
Premium -	-	1	5	1		
Provisions -	-	439	4	0		
Lumber, shingles, and nails -	-	100	10	9		
				679	11	7
„ Bermuda—Cash and drafts	-	929	6	4		
Premium -	-	28	8	2		
Provisions -	-	48	15	0		
Lumber -	-	6	5	0		
				1,012	14	6
„ Boston, U.S.—Draft -	-	—	—	197	18	4
„ Baltimore, U.S.—Draft -	-	—	—	35	14	3
„ Cuba (Cienfuegos)—Draft -	-	—	—	52	13	7
„ DEMERARA :						
Georgetown—Drafts -	-	1,046	2	10		
Premium -	-	24	19	1		
Berbice—Drafts -	-	51	9	3		
Premium -	-	0	2	2		
				1,122	13	4
„ GREAT BRITAIN :						
Birmingham—Draft -	-	17	17	0		
Edinburgh—Cash -	-	66	13	6		
Porto-bello—Cash -	-	30	0	0		
Glasgow—B.E. notes -	-	30	0	0		
Premium -	-	0	18	10		
London—Cash and drafts	-	763	2	5		
Premium -	-	18	16	1		
Provisions -	-	100	0	0		
				1,027	7	10
„ Grenada—Drafts -	-	240	0	0		
Premium -	-	4	16	0		
				244	16	0
„ Guadeloupe—Drafts, 3,000 frs. -	-	—	—	115	0	0
„ Halifax—Drafts -	-	465	0	0		
Premium -	-	9	13	9		
				474	13	9
„ Hayti—Draft and provisions	-	—	—	57	15	1
„ Havana—Cash -	-	—	—	34	17	3
„ Her Majesty's Government—Provisions, clothing, &c., per H.M.S. "Cadmus" -	-	—	—	546	10	6
„ Jamaica—Cash -	-	—	—	10	0	0
„ New York, U.S.—Cash -	-	847	13	0		
Provisions -	-	36	5	3		
				883	18	3
„ Nevis—Cash and B. note -	-	10	11	8		
Premium -	-	0	5	3		
				10	16	11
„ Porto Plata—Provisions, &c. -	-	—	—	35	0	0
„ Ragged Island, N.S.—Draft -	-	—	—	38	0	0
„ St. Christopher—Draft -	-	120	0	0		
Premium -	-	3	18	0		
				123	18	0
„ St. Croix—Draft -	-	—	—	40	0	0
„ St. Thomas—Cash -	-	173	14	3		
Provisions, clothing, &c. -	-	117	10	0		
				291	4	3
„ St. Vincent—Drafts -	-	104	3	4		
Premium -	-	2	1	8		
				106	5	0
„ St. Lucia—Draft -	-	27	8	6		
Premium -	-	0	11	0		
				27	19	6
„ Tobago—Draft -	-	50	0	0		
Premium -	-	1	12	6		
				51	12	6
„ Trinidad—Drafts -	-	155	12	0		
Premium -	-	2	5	0		
				157	17	0
„ Tortola—Cash -	-	—	—	32	5	10
„ Wilmington, U.S.—Lumber -	-	—	—	44	0	0
„ Cash, sales of lumber and shingles -	-	—	—	89	2	7
				£10,010	7	1
„ Balance brought down -	-	—	—	1,088	16	6

1866.									
By cash paid for food and clothing for distribution among the poor and maintenance of soup kitchens	-	1,246	2	10					
„ Cash paid for labour in repairing public buildings, streets, canals, &c., and removing <i>débris</i>	-	-	914	0	8				
						2,160	3	6	
„ Cash paid for relief to the destitute, medical aid, and expenses attending maintenance of soup kitchens, &c., &c. from 1st December 1866 to the 7th May 1867	-	-	-	-	-	269	6	1	
„ Cash paid grant to poor's asylum to aid in rebuilding and enlarging the same	-	-	-	-	-	200	0		
„ Cash paid import duties, viz., total amount of duties	-	-	400	7	9				
Less, paid from auction sales	-	-	21	8	7				
Refunded	-	-	298	3	6				
						319	12	1	
								80	15
„ Cash paid for building material, imported and purchased, for distribution among the destitute, viz., 722,946 ft. lumber, 654,450 shingles	5,317	9	10						
„ Labour—landing, hauling up, &c. lumber and shingles	-	-	102	16	5				
„ Cash paid for nails and hinges from St. Thomas	-	-	172	5	3				
						5,592	11	6	
„ Amount estimated for lumber, shingles, and nails, received as contributions and distributed, viz.:—									
From Barbados, 11,429 ft. lumber, 50 M. shingles, and 10 bags nails	-	-	100	10	9				
From Wilmington, U.S., 7,098 ft. lumber	-	-	44	0	0				
From Bermuda, 1 M. ft. lumber	-	-	6	5	0				
„ Amount estimated for provisions, clothing, &c., distributed among the destitute, and consumed at the soup kitchens	-	-	350	3	10				
„ Amount estimated for 21 woollen jackets on hand	-	-	21	0	0				
						521	19	7	
„ Cash paid for lumber purchased at auction and distributed	-	-	-	-	-	56	14	3	
„ Ditto for 12 bags corn distributed at Bambarrow and Lorimers	-	-	-	-	-	7	16	0	
„ Ditto for assisting to repair damaged premises	-	-	-	-	-	82	4	0	
						8,921	10	7	
„ Balance in hand at this date						1,088	16	6	

26. In addition to the donations enumerated, very many gifts of clothing and food were received from Bermuda, Antigua, Nassau, and England, and privately distributed to the destitute by the several recipients; and the more pressing needs of the people having been, to a great extent, relieved, I recently held a meeting of the central relief committee, at which it was resolved that the balance now in hand should be devoted, 1st, to the purchase of a large quantity of shingles; 2ndly, to assisting the poorest in the erection of their small dwellings; and 3rdly, to the relief of any case of distress which may arise during or may continue till the approaching winter. The salt pond proprietors at Salt Cay and East Harbour have all, I believe, received a portion of the aid thus placed at my disposal, through the central relief committee; but few, if any, except the poor and the labourer at Grand Turk, have participated in the generous donations from abroad. The time and labour which many of these gentlemen who compose the central relief committee have given in attendance on the committee, and in the distribution of the lumber, food, and clothing, have been therefore in the strictest sense gratuitous, and such conduct is well deserving of the approval accorded to it by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

27. It has been my practice since my arrival here to request each minister of the several religious denominations resident within the Colony to be good enough to furnish me with a short report of what may be his personal experience of the moral and social condition generally of the inhabitants, and of the religious and moral state of the denomination over whose spiritual concerns he is appointed to watch. To my request this year I have received replies from the three Episcopalian clergymen, and from the Wesleyan and Baptist Missionaries. The report of the latter, and those from the rectors of St. Thomas and St. George, are all very interesting, and so far as my personal observation extends, give a truthful and vivid picture of this community with respect to the subjects referred to; but the letters are rather voluminous to be embodied in, so I annex them along with the others to, this report.

28. Your Excellency will observe, on perusing these documents, that their authors consider the social and moral condition of the people in anything but a healthy state, and the influx of a class of political refugees from St. Domingo and Haiti during the past two years to have been most deleterious in its effects, as poisoning the moral atmosphere and ruining many, especially the young, of our community. The excessive use of alcoholic drinks—the crowding large numbers of people of all ages and of both sexes into small and unsuitable dwellings—the absence of good example, especially in a want of reverence for the sanctity of the Sabbath, and attendance on the public worship of Almighty God, by those placed high in the social scale, but who are in daily intercourse with the people—all call for a thorough reformation, and necessity exists for bringing, not merely religious principles and teaching to bear upon the people, but the powerful agency of good example.

One gentleman remarks, “I believe the God of one class of this community is ‘Mammon’ (with some honourable exceptions), and the religion of the others, as far as I can judge, consists more in the demonstration of feeling under the influence of ‘a species of religious’ (?) ‘excitement to which in one form or another they appear attached, than in the experimental knowledge and practice of the grand principles of the Gospel.’” Most of the ministers, however, speak well of the attendance of children at the Sabbath schools, and the rectors of St. Thomas and St. John of increased numbers in their congregations and communicants. I can myself bear testimony to the truth of this, in so far as the church and Sabbath school attached to the rectory of this Island is concerned, but when one is told that not more than one-third of our population is found in all our places of worship on any Sabbath day, it must be acknowledged that, either in the teaching or in the taught, there is something amiss, which we must hope to discover, and to which, by the help of God, a remedy must be applied if we expect to see that amount of moral and religious progress so necessary to the present well-being and future welfare of any people.

29. Independently of those who were killed or subsequently died from the effects of injuries received during the hurricane, one chief cause of mortality was the great scarcity of rain, and the compulsion to partake of brackish water, superinducing dysentery and other disease of the bowels. A considerable amount of property in mules and cattle was also lost from the same cause. In other respects the health of the Colony was good, and had the severe losses by the hurricane not been sustained, the material prosperity of the Colony would once more have been my theme.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Captain-General
and Governor-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) ALEX. W. MOIR,
President.

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.

Sub-Encl. 1 in
No. 3.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Rev. D. L. D. KERR, B.M., to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Baptist Mission House, Grand Turk,
March 3, 1867.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your communication of the 20th ultimo, which I have the honour to acknowledge, requesting me to furnish his Honour the President with a report on the three mentioned conditions of the general inhabitants of this Colony to the best of my knowledge, and particularly with regard to the denomination over which I have the ministerial charge, I beg leave to state that as it would be undertaking more than I could satisfactorily perform in so short a time and in so concise a manner as may be desirable, I could not offer anything like a report, but quite willing I am to state the following facts touching the subjects of inquiry.

I am sorry to say, in the first place, judging from the stand-point of observation, that no very glowing statement can be given with regard to either condition. I see around me plenty of religious formula, but truth is sadly wanting. As to the poor, they have the Gospel preached unto them, and the rich are not in want, a few good examples of virtue and piety are set before them, but we are not satisfied with the effect produced. To step in the right direction is perhaps to direct special attention to the education of the rising population of the Colony, as in them may be realized what was lost in their fathers.

As for morality, we see it associated with religion in all cases, and it may be found sometimes to exist without, but instances of this kind are rare amongst us. Where the dominant principle is religion we look for moral purity. It is in the absence of this principle that the corners of our streets are full of intoxication, and language too obscene for the wise and good to utter fills the air with its horrid music.

In the course of a lecture delivered by him a few months since before the "Social and Moral Institute," the acting police magistrate remarked, "No one who has been for any length of time a member of our community but must be aware how fearfully habits of intemperance have increased among our labouring population, and among those too who don't consider themselves labourers during the last 15 or 20 years. At one time it was a rare thing to meet a case of drunkenness in our streets, now our police court tells a very different tale, and seven-eighths of the convictions which take place there (at the police court) originate directly or indirectly from the fearful habit of intemperance which now prevails among our people. There were at one period very few rum shops, now they have been established in every direction, even at the back Salina where they were formerly unknown. I regret to say that every facility is afforded to open places of this kind, the demoralization of our people being of no consideration where a few pounds can be obtained by them. Mark the dangerous effects the free use of alcoholic drinks has had on the reputation and character of the majority of our young men. A gentleman who does not live a hundred miles from here informed me not long since that he had been for some time past in want of a confidential clerk, one of industrious and sober habits, and he declared that of all the applicants for the situation, his own relative included, to whom he would have given the preference if found worthy, there were only two that he would have been willing to employ, and one of those two was a white and the other a black lad, and this too he observed was not any doubt as to their honesty, but solely in consequence of the baneful habit they had acquired in drinking liquor and getting drunk at night." Add to this the midnight revelry of numbers hurrying themselves to a premature grave.

There are instances not a few where the marriage vow is set at defiance or the conjugal tie put asunder for a mere trifle. It is painful to refer to the numerous cases which have come under our notice of applicants for infant dedication and baptism where the fathers are utterly unknown even by the mothers themselves; and these are infants of every shade of colour, emanating it would seem from every grade of society. My official return for the past year shows great leanness on this very account. It has also come to our turn very often to meet with persons who having indulged in the Adamic sin resort to the marriage contract either to cover the shameful deed, or as a sort of compensation the most convenient for their gross violation of the law of God and the common rule of propriety. Why is all this in a Christian Colony? Some say the influx of foreigners with habits of vice peculiar to themselves, and quite out of keeping with English taste, has done all to demoralize the masses. Be it so. But in my opinion, the evil like a deceitful fire had been long smouldering and only needed a little fanning and fuel to increase the flame; hence what before was done in a corner is now done openly, and when once the immoral have lost all shame, all hope seems likewise lost. Strangers have often had cause to express their disappointment in the conduct of a people so long in the enjoyment of civil rights and liberties, so long under implements of moral culture and the restraints of the Christian religion. It has been correctly observed that the wandering situation of the labouring inhabitants of the Colony since the late hurricane has been productive of an immense amount of moral evil. The demoralizing influence of some has no doubt told most fearfully on others, and especially has the youthful mind been exposed to impressions the most pernicious. This unexpected breaking up and distribution of households must have been followed by wholesale wreck and ruin of every moral principle amongst the unfortunate victims of distress, were it not that some were favoured to find an asylum beneath the roofs of God-fearing men, more ready to aid by good examples and precepts than to hinder their progress, or to take advantage of their necessity. But I must add, that if the moral safety of the Colony be a question of great moment, and if the most alarming results might well be feared from the mal-circumstances of these people, who are to this day more than five months without a shelter of their own, and trust upon their friends, many of them who cannot much longer endure a collision so inimical to their peace and comfort, it is absolutely necessary to furnish separate dwellings, however small, with as little delay as possible. It is always so much better and easier to prevent an evil than to cure one.

It is gratifying to state that his Honour the President has exerted himself in every direction, especially since the hurricane, where it was likely to promote the moral well-being of the Colony, and not less hearty and responsive have been the efforts of other godly men his coadjutors.

As for society, it appears to me a fine building because the painter has passed his brush over it ; but experience tells me the foundation is good but the body insecure. It is of the first importance then to examine with a skilful eye the whole social fabric, and supplant the decayed uprights with others of a sounder description if they can be found. It strikes me, sir, that if social order is to be maintained amongst the different grades, and the rule of progression is to be observed with regard to each individual member of society, the main point is to discriminate according to character. Strict attention should be paid to this as the standard measure. But when one man will entertain low opinions of another and do his best to propagate them in a secret way, only for the sake of amusement or revenge, without regard to the interest of his neighbour, he plays a part with the Philistines' foxes with Samson's firebrands at their tails. Or if one is envious of another's better standing in public opinion, and fearing his turn will come too late, employs cunning and falsehood to effect his neighbour's overthrow, he is again the celebrated Haman, who contrived a gallows for Mordecai, but finds at last his own neck slipped within the halter. These things cannot be favourable to society ; yet in this small Colony they exist in too many instances, and when the weapons of secret rebellion shall cease to stir up anger, and men everywhere contend openly and fearlessly for God and His truth, and the good and upright, instead of abandoning the profligate, bend to the task of reforming them, then shall we enjoy the blessing of uninterrupted social harmony.

Comparing the present with the past, however, it must be admitted that some change for the better has taken place in this direction. During my 10 years' residence in this Colony I have seen our social standing at a much lower ebb than it is to-day. Evidently a more judicious administration than we can remember in former times has been crowned with much success in this respect.

Now, with regard to the denomination over which I preside, I can say nothing but what might apply to all religious denominations of the day, and therefore may not be able to furnish you with further information on this point than what may already be known.

It will not be expected that the 300 persons who constitute our churches in this Colony are decidedly consistent with their principles because Baptist by profession. On the contrary, we meet up now and then with a Judas and a Simon Magus too, and a false Peter is never wanting to deny the truth when brought to the test, but as the wise man saith, "A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back," the proper exercise of church discipline is indispensable. It is by this means we preserve the purity of our principles, and it may be for this reason we advance so slowly in numbers. Our congregations receive nothing from us but the simple truths of the Bible, and the work of conviction in the mind and reformation in the lives of some is no doubt gradually going on. When it is remembered that we have to work upon that portion of the inhabitants chiefly whose lot has not been cast in the same mould which has fitted others, their fellow colonists and countrymen, for positions on the platform of polite literature and society, the wonder is, not that we have done so little, but that we have done so much.

Since the days of slavery an almost miraculous change has taken place in the religion and morals of the Baptists, and many besides who were not Baptists who could not rise beyond the fetters that bound them. But a little more than 30 years have passed away since then, and if the highest objects of life have been so far realized, who can tell what the next 30 years will bring forth. But there is one drawback, sir, and a very serious one, the carelessness of our youth to improve their minds, and consequently their loose manners and morals. Our school libraries are always at their command, but poor use is made of what they find in them. The Government schools, which are unsectarian in their principle, ought to be a great help to them, especially if these schools are under the management of strictly moral and religious instructors. Then we have in some places a library with plenty of good reading for the public benefit, and withal, the duties of religion are most earnestly enforced in our Sunday schools and Bible meetings, and yet they seem to think as little of to-morrow as though it would never come.

With regard to the condition of the Caicos, I have only to call your attention to the following extract from report of Reverend Mr. S. Kerr, who has recently returned from a missionary tour through that Island in accordance with special instructions from the Baptist Missionary Committee in England:—"We cannot boast of much progress since my departure as a resident in that island, which may not be expected with the present local means of spiritual improvement and an occasional visit from the missionary at Grand Turk, yet we have every reason to believe, that judging from the religious state of things generally, they are not far in the rear of their neighbours or other islands in this Colony. The great want among these people, in my opinion, is education. This is lamentable, as numbers of the rising generation are growing up without the means of diverting their attention to anything better than grovelling habits, as must be the case where education is wanting. With regard to morality, I could add that the huddling together of several families in small camps since the hurricane, which would barely accommodate a family of three or four persons before, cannot fail to result in immorality, except among those whose ruling principle is the love and fear of God."

Trusting that what I have written will meet the object in view,

I am, &c.

A. C. Lowe, Esq.
Colonial Secretary.

(Signed) D. L. D. KERR.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

RECTOR of the PARISH of ST. THOMAS to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sub-Encl. 2 in
No. 3.

SIR,

Grand Turk, March 9, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, in which you request a report from me, for the information of his Honour the President, as to my opinion of the moral and social condition, generally, of the inhabitants of the Colony, based upon my personal

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.

knowledge and observation, and more particularly in regard to the religious and moral state of the denomination to which I am privileged to minister.

I would beg to say in reply, that while my knowledge of the Colony may be said only to date from the 15th of last April, when I entered on my ministerial duties at this place, yet an acquaintance with the West Indian colonies for a period extending over nearly 30 years will, I humbly trust, permit me to form a just and fair opinion in relation to those matters upon which information has been requested, and that while I would speak kindly I must speak faithfully.

I do not then think that the moral and religious condition of the people contrast favourably with the inhabitants of the larger and older colonies, while I must add that the means afforded by the Government, and the pains and efforts of the Executive for the religious and moral education of the youth and for the social advancement of the people generally, together with the means of grace available through the various religious denominations, exceeding in number, when contrasted with the population, those of the colonies referred to; yet the same good effects are not discernible to mortal eye.

This sad state of things is, however, easily explained.

For some years past the Colony has been deluged by a host of political refugees from St. Domingo and Haiti, who, whether male or female, have been for the most part individuals depraved in morals, vicious in habits, and utterly destitute of all moral and religious restraint, consequently irreligion, debauchery, profligacy, and all manner of vice have marked their course in our midst, proving fatal to many, poisoning the moral atmosphere, and ruining especially the young of our population.

Would that I could pause here, while accounting for the low state of morals and religion in our midst, but the assimilative power of example, which acts the strongest and steadiest upon the instincts of our natures, tells with giant force upon the coloured population of the West Indian colonies and with ourselves among the rest. It is in vain we labour for the glory of God and the good of immortal souls of all without distinction of creed, unless those in authority and who are more immediately brought into daily connexion and intercourse with our people, set before them a moral and religious example, more especially a reverence for the sanctity of the Sabbath and an attendance on the public worship of Almighty God. We require particularly in a small community a strong reformation in this respect, when it is taken into consideration that not more than one-third of the population are to be found in all our places of worship on any sabbath day.

In regard to the Church of England, over whose congregation I have the honour and privilege to preside, I can say in humble gratitude to Almighty God, to whom I would desire to ascribe all the praise, that our members and general attendants will contrast equally and favourably with those of other denominations. 495 attend public worship; of this number 165 are communicants, 36 having been added within the last seven months. The average congregation may be set down at about 220. The parish church has sittings but for 280. It is right here to say that there are many others calling themselves members of the Church of England and even communicants, but as they have never attended public worship during my incumbency I have not included them in this return.

I can, of course, draw no contrast in relation to the state of the congregation in previous years, and if I even could, delicacy of feeling would prevent it. I am told, however, by others competent to judge that a great improvement in all matters has taken place, and giving utterance to my own feelings and experience I feel I have reason from my heart to thank God and take courage for the future.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. M. DILLON,
Rector, St. Thomas' Parish.

Alex. C. Lowe, Esq.,
Colonial Secretary.

Sub Encl. 3 in
No. 3.

Sub-Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

INCUMBENT, PARISH of ST. GEORGE, to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DEAR SIR,

East Harbour, Caicos Island, March 14, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 28th February last.

It would afford me considerable pleasure to comply in each particular with the President's request respecting the social, moral, and religious status of the Colony, did my time of residence in the presidency (which has been little over six months) warrant me in hazarding an opinion, and especially as the greater portion of that period has been spent (owing to the late hurricane) in the parish of another clergyman whose longer residence and more extensive experience in the West Indies will doubtless qualify him to give more satisfactory information. However, as it is his Honour's desire that my opinion should be given as far as my "personal knowledge and observation" may enable me to form one, I shall gladly do so, but must confine myself principally to the East Harbour settlement, it being the only part of my parish I have had the opportunity of visiting.

As to the social aspect of the question I must confess to being very much disappointed in my expectations. I had hoped, at least, to have found in a professing Christian community an average regard for the sacred obligations of civilized society. I deeply regret, however, being obliged to state that the majority of the people seem to me to have no idea of the nature of those obligations or the extent of evil the neglect of them inevitably bring upon the community.

As to the second point, seeing there can be no really perfect social system without a corresponding scriptural morality, the absence of the one implies the absence of the other also. Profound indolence, drunkenness, and a dishonesty which appears to be an innate principle are the chief characteristics of the labouring class; in these particulars, however, I have good reason to believe East Harbour will compare favourably with Grand Turk, Salt Cay, and the other settlements of the Caicos Islands. I could refer to other matters too painful for the Christian minister to contemplate, which go to show the necessity for

a thorough moral reformation, and also the necessity there exists for bringing not merely principles to bear upon the people, but the more powerful agency of good example.

As to the state of religion: If I must speak the naked truth before Him who knows the hearts of all men, I cannot refrain from saying that I believe the God of one class of this community is "mammon" (with some honourable exceptions), and the religion of the others as far as I can judge consists more in the demonstration of feeling under the influence of a species of religious excitement (to which in one form or another they appear attached), than in the experimental knowledge and practice of the grand principles of the Gospel. Every effect has a cause, and doubtless this state of things is traceable to some sufficient cause, but as this is a point on which there may be difference of opinion, I think I must for the present retain my own and endeavour to test its correctness by further observation.

I trust the shortness of my residence in the Colony will be sufficient apology for the vagueness of this report.

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.

The Honourable Alex. C. Lowe, Esq.,
Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. LOWE GLANVILLE,
Incumbent of St. George.

Sub-Enclosure 4 in No. 3.

RECTOR OF ST. JOHN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sub-Encl. 4 in
No. 3

Turks and Caicos Islands, Parish of St. John.

THE assistant police magistrate having kindly allowed me to refer to the police records of Salt Cay (the only settlement in this parish), I find but one person calling himself a churchman has been convicted by the justices of the peace, and that one on two occasions, one of "assault" and the other of "abusive language;" both cases were settled by the magistrates.

The number of scholars in the Sunday school increased during the year, and the attendance has been satisfactory in spite of the hurricane.

The number of average attendants at church has been quite as good as in former years, while the number of monthly partakers of the Lord's Supper has been greater than in many years past.

The awful hurricane of 30th September last will long be remembered among us, I hope and think it will be the means by Divine blessing of making many of us live looser to this world and more attentive to things unseen.

9th April 1867.

(Signed) JOS. C. ASHWOOD,
Rector, Parish of St. John.

Sub-Enclosure 5 in No. 3.

REV. THOMAS BATE, W.M., to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sub-Encl. 5 in
No. 3.

SIR,

Wesleyan Mission House, April 10, 1867.

IN compliance with the request of his Honour the President, conveyed to me by yours of the 28th February, I beg to state I have nothing to say on the condition of the community generally, either morally, socially, or religiously.

Respecting those under my own pastoral care, I have every reason on the whole to be grateful concerning their present spiritual condition. Their attention to the means of grace and the attendance of the children at the Sabbath school are very praiseworthy, especially when their privations during the past six months are considered; while their patience, resignation, and calm submission to the will of Heaven have been very noticeable features in their character and conduct.

Neither do we think this has been the effect of cold, stoical indifference, but rather a scriptural, deep-seated conviction of the mind that the Judge of all the earth has done right. In many instances those afflictive events have been sanctified to the benefit of our people.

Honourable Alex. C. Lowe,
Colonial Secretary,
Grand Turk.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS BATE.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 4.

BRITISH
GUIANA.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MUNDY to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 125.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Demerara, September 10, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866, and beg to make the following observations thereon.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1866 was 304,816*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*, against 309,371*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* collected in 1865. There was a decrease on import duties, including wines and spirits, of 5,050*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*,

and under four other heads of 2,142*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*, and an increase under eight heads of 2,637*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*. The expenditure for 1866 as compared with the previous year shows an increase of nearly 10,000*l.*; the principal increase has been under the heads of Gaols, Miscellaneous, Police, Public Works, Public Debt and Interest on Public Debt, and Education. There has been a decrease of 3,869*l.* 4*s.* 0½*d.* under the head of Immigration, owing to the decreased demand for Immigrants in 1866, and under the head of Riot Compensation Bonds 5,031*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.*, which were fully redeemed in 1865.

Public Debt.

In 1866 the amount of the Public Debt was 571,166*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, against 559,516*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* in the previous year; the increase has been under ordinance 27 of 1864 for the Improvement of Villages, 12,500*l.*, and ordinance 24 of 1864 for Immigration and other purposes, and for the introduction of Liberated Africans, 63,100*l.*; the decrease has been under the heads of Loan for Immigration Purposes, ordinance 2 of 1845, 3 of 1857, and 29 of 1862, 7,000*l.*; Loan for establishing a Bonded Warehouse, 1,250*l.*; loan ordinances 16 of 1865 and 8 of 1857 for Passages of Immigrants, 2,200*l.*; loan ordinances 5 of 1860 and 17 of 1862 for Introduction of Chinese Immigrants, 38,000*l.*; bounties for Coolies for re-indenture for further Industrial Residence, 15,000*l.*

The Colony is also guarantee for loans borrowed by the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown to the amount of 89,479*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

Public Works.

The chief expenditure has been for the hospitals of Demerara and Berbice, the sea wall, and St. Swithin's dam, and for police lock-ups; the expenditure for 1866 was 30,224*l.* 6*s.* 3½*d.* against 24,490*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* in 1865.

Legislation.

During the year 1866 21 ordinances were enacted; two ordinances were passed for the increase of the indenture fee and for payment of same to the immigrants. Ordinance No. III. amended the law of evidence on criminal trials; ordinance No. IX. provided for punishment of offences against the Post Office; ordinance No. X. altered and amended in certain respects the Administrator-General's Bill of 1865; and ordinance No. XVII. provided for consolidating the various loans of the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown guaranteed by the Colony.

Education.

Under this head there was an increase of 1,500*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* over the year 1865, principally for repairs of schools and increase of salaries to masters. The average attendance of children for 1866, 6,615, shows an increase as compared with 1865 of 794; there was also an additional school; the number of schools in 1866 was 118 against 117 in 1865.

Imports and Exports.

The value of goods imported was 1,530,674*l.* 15*s.* in 1866, against 1,359,292*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* in 1865.

The value of exports in 1866 was 2,170,967*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* against 2,089,639*l.* 1*s.* 0*d.*, in 1865. The chief increase was in the value of sugar, 101,095*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.*. There was an increase under the heads of cotton, 1,995*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.*; non-enumerated goods, 7,608*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.*, and under 44 other heads of 24,495*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.*. The decrease was under the item of balata, 1,035*l.* 1*s.* 0*d.*; cocoa and coffee, 927*l.* 19*s.* 0*d.*; rum, 650*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*; and timber (hardwood), 20,309*l.* 17*s.* 0*d.*; and under 43 other items of 24,992*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

Gaols and Prisons.

The expenditure for 1866 was 10,651*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.* against 9,370*l.* 5*s.* 6½*d.* in 1865. The increase is owing to the larger number of prisoners confined during the year 1866.

In conclusion, I would beg to observe that the health of the inhabitants generally has been fair. The immigrants seem satisfied and contented with their condition, each year shows improvement both in the dwellings and hospitals provided for them; greater care

throughout the Colony is shown to promote their health and comfort, and on the whole there appears to be every reason to congratulate the Colony on its advancement and increased prosperity during the past year.

BRITISH
GUIANA.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham
and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROB. M. MUNDY.

BAHAMAS.

BAHAMAS.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor RAWSON, C.B., to his Grace the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 165.)

MY LORD DUKE, Government House, Nassau, November 9, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit my Report upon the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

2. I have appended to it a connected, and tolerably complete, account of the disastrous hurricane which swept these Islands on the 1st October of that year, showing its course from St. Thomas, where it was first observed, to a considerable distance north of the Bahamas, and describing the havoc which it committed on the several Islands.*

* Not printed.

3. The course is derived from forty-two observations, which I have been enabled to collect; and as it is seldom that an occasion offers of obtaining trustworthy returns from so extensive an area, and as this visitation will form an era in the history of the Colony, I have not considered it out of place to add a detailed account of it, and of the City of Nassau, in which its ravages were most severely felt, to my usual annual Report.

4. As, however, the Meteorological Returns, with the table and chart compiled from them, upon which this portion of my Report is founded, would scarcely form an appropriate addition to it, I have put them up in a separate packet, which I request may be forwarded with the letter accompanying it to the Secretary of the London Meteorological Society.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RAWSON W. RAWSON,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham
and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c. Governor.

REPORT.

AT the close of my last year's Report I expressed an anticipation that the year 1866 would be marked by a notable advance in the progress and prospects of the Colony. I could not then foresee that the strife of men would be so soon followed by a war of elements, and that these Islands, which had for so many years been spared from such a visitation, would be swept, almost throughout, by a hurricane so disastrous as to stamp the year one of the most remarkable in the history of the Colony. I shall endeavour, in an Appendix, to furnish an epitomized account of this event, and of its effects. In this Report I shall confine myself to remarks upon other general topics, only indirectly connected with the hurricane.

2. The Colony had almost recovered its normal condition at the close of the year 1865, after the fever of the two preceding years had subsided, and it was commencing to rally from the state of exhaustion which was caused by the sudden cessation of the civil war in America. The occurrence of very violent storms to windward of the Colony in the month of January caused many disasters to passing shipping, and brought a considerable amount of business connected with wrecks and crippled ships, which gave an impetus to trade in the early part of the year. Considerable attention was given to the cultivation of cotton and of fruit. The sponge trade was carried on to an unusual extent, and the

BAHAMAS.

passing of an Act by the Colonial Legislature to repress the abuses of wrecking, and to divert the attention of the population from that employment to agriculture and other pursuits on shore, appeared likely to operate beneficially and to lead to the increase of the wealth and prosperity of the Colony. But the hurricane, which commenced among the south-eastern Islands of the group on the 30th September, and passed away to the north-west on the 2d October, disappointed all their expectations—swept away the crops of fruit and grain, uprooted the orchards, broke down the cotton plants, disturbed and tore away the sponges, and discouraged and disheartened the population throughout the Colony, who having been for many years free from such a misfortune had become accustomed to look upon hurricanes as dangers of past times, or to which their neighbours were unhappily exposed, but which they need take no precautions to resist.

3. This occurrence, though it seriously affected the population of most of the Islands, caused them heavy losses, and still greater personal inconvenience and hardship, checked the onward progress of agricultural industry, and in New Providence caused a serious drain upon the capital and credit of individuals, did not very seriously affect commerce or diminish the revenue. A large number of wrecks and damaged ships came into Nassau; the inhabitants of some of the out Islands profited by salvage and derelicts. The provisions and other property destroyed or damaged in the stores had to be replaced, and thus both the trade and revenue of the Colony were maintained beyond expectation.

4. The following comparison between 1866 and 1861, the year preceding the civil war in America, will show the progress which the Colony has made during that period; and the half-yearly receipts of revenue in 1864 and 1866 will show the downward progress from the palmy days of the blockade running trade.

	1861.	1866.	Per-centage. Increase.
	£	£	
Value of imports	274,584	328,622	19·6
„ exports	195,584	261,976	33·8
„ revenue	35,541	50,216	41·2

Half-yearly returns of revenue :—

	£
1864. First half	51,068
„ Second „	55,569
1865. First „	53,870
„ Second „	30,616
1866. First „	26,062
„ Second „	25,017

During the first half of the present year (1867) the revenue has yielded 24,708*l*.

Population.

5. There has been nothing to note as regards increase by immigration or change by migration. The health of New Providence and of the other Islands, with one exception, has been very good. No case of yellow fever occurred during the year. In the early part of the year typhoid fever appeared at Harbour Island and Spanish Wells, and caused several deaths. A Commission was appointed to investigate the causes, and suggest the required remedies. The Medical Inspector was sent from Nassau to conduct the inquiry, and the report of the Commission has led to several sanitary improvements in both places.

6. The number of births has slightly increased during the last year; that of deaths has been, strange to say, exactly the same, or, deducting the difference by violent deaths, which includes drowning, has been about 5 per cent. less.

	Total.	Total.	Deaths by violence.
In 1865	Births, 1,268	Deaths, 924	57
In 1866	„ 1,292	„ 924	105

7. The quarterly returns of the mortality show that there was a considerable decrease until the last quarter, when the hurricane not only caused several violent deaths, but produced increased mortality by the exposure and hardship which it inflicted upon large numbers of the poorer classes. The latter influence is likely to operate during a portion of the present year, 1867. The decrease in the first three quarters was 11·5 per cent.;

the increase in the last quarter amounted to 31·7 per cent., of which 21·6 is owing to the difference in the number of violent deaths. BAHAMAS.

		1865.	1866.
First quarter	- - -	243	211
Second „	- - -	199	183
Third „	- - -	236	206
Fourth „	- - -	246	324
		<u>924</u>	<u>924</u>

8. A classification of the diseases during each of the last three years will suffice to some extent to show the character of those which usually prove fatal in these Islands, it being borne in mind that the occurrence of yellow fever is exceptional and rare. The return would be more valuable if the number of undefined cases were not so large.

	No. of Deaths.		
	1864.	1865.	1866.
Fevers :			
Ordinary - - - -	214	173	179
Yellow - - - -	146	6	—
Scarlet, eruptive - - -	53	8	3
Diseases of lungs and heart - - -	131	216	133
Do. bowels and liver - - -	73	95	89
Dropsies - - - -	26	26	23
Diseases of brain and nerves :			
Apoplexy and palsy - - -	30	18	14
Convulsions and spasms - - -	100	77	62
Sudden and violent - - -	41	57	105
Still born - - - -	10	10	18
Child birth - - - -	7	8	6
Other causes - - - -	165	230	292
Total - - - -	<u>996</u>	<u>924</u>	<u>924</u>

Education.

9. The anticipated improvement in the management of the schools, and increase of schools and scholars, have been fully realized, although the hurricane caused a temporary check to their progress. For a week after that disaster every school ceased work, almost all the school-houses having been more or less injured. 17 schools had to be transferred to other buildings. But within a month most of the schools were at work, and upon the close of the year only two remained closed, and neither of them for any reason connected with the hurricane.

10. The number of schools increased from 30 to 37 in the year. The number of scholars on the books increased from 2,047 to 2,877, and the average attendance from 1,053 to 1,715. The per-centage of increase has been—

On number of schools	- - -	23·3 per cent.
„ scholars on books	- - -	40·5 „
On average attendance	- - -	62·5 „

11. The Education Board, whose report is appended,* state that “there is reason to believe that some of the teachers are exerting a salutary influence not only on the children, but also on the whole community. This has been gathered from the testimony of visitors, committees, parents, and the Inspector's Report. To this fact the Board attribute much of the success which has attended their operations for the past two years.” * Not printed.

Crime and Pauperism.

12. The cessation of the blockade running trade has begun to exercise the influence on the criminal calendar which was to be expected, although the number of offenders brought before the General Court is still double that of the period before the war. The

BAHAMAS. consequences of the hurricane may have led to a temporary increase in the number of larcenies during the last quarter of the year. But the rule of the population was charity, and the Government for some weeks supplied the wants of many settlements in the out Islands where the greatest need existed. This cause, therefore, had probably no great effect in swelling the number of offenders.

General Court.

	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Total.
1861	13	4	17
1862	22	12	34
1863	59	23	82
1864	75	24	99
1865	65	37	102
1866	46	15	61

Convictions in Police Court.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1863	689	189	878
1864	891	221	1,112
1865	922	245	1,167
1866	742	386	1,128

13. A startling feature in the last return is the increase in the number of female offenders convicted in the police court. It indicates the state of degradation to which the profligacy of the blockade-running period has brought a number of women who were exposed to it. For the aggregate has been formed by the repeated convictions of a comparatively small number.

14. The expenditure for the maintenance of indigent sick paupers has continued to increase, notwithstanding the extensive relief given from hurricane funds during the last two months of the year. The Commissioners of the New Providence Asylum have expended 2,658*l.* against 2,489*l.* in 1865.

Legislation of 1866.

15. The usual annual session of the Legislature opened on the 8th February, and closed on the 10th May, and an extraordinary session was held in November, between the 6th and the 14th of that month, for the purpose of authorizing a loan to provide for the reconstruction and repair of the numerous public buildings destroyed or damaged by the hurricane, and for assistance to the poorer inhabitants of the Colony in the restoration of their buildings, and in furnishing them with temporary means of subsistence.

The principal Acts passed were:—

1. "To divide the Electoral District of Andros, and to give representation to the Biminis."—Cap. 1.
2. "To amend the Alien Law."—Cap. 15.
3. "To revise the Procedure of the Court of Common Pleas."—Cap. 34.
4. "To amend the Equity Procedure in the General Court."—Cap. 31.
5. "To amend the Law of Evidence in Criminal Cases."—Cap. 3.
6. "To amend the Law of Perjury."—Cap. 4.
7. "To amend the Education Act."—Cap. 30.
8. "To provide for the Incorporation of Trading Companies (Limited Liability)." Cap. 5.
9. "To amend the Licensed Vessels (Wrecking) Acts."—Cap. 16.
10. "To consolidate and amend the Tonnage Dues."—Cap. 13.
11. "To exempt Machinery, &c. from Import Duties."—Cap. 11.
12. "To regulate the Receiver-General's Department."—Cap. 10.
13. "To continue the office of Assistant Police Magistrate, Nassau."—Cap. 29.
14. "To establish Fire Brigades in Nassau."—Cap. 25.
15. "To authorize a Loan for Repairing Hurricane Damages." (Cap. 1 of Session of 1866-7.)

Land and Agriculture.

BAHAMAS.

16. There has been an increase in the number and area of grants of land during the year, independent of the completion of a sale of 1,000 acres of forest land in Andros, made some years ago, which makes this appear larger than it would otherwise be.

In 1864	-	Grants, 62	-	Acres, 207 $\frac{1}{4}$
„ 1865	-	„ 33	-	„ 117 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ 1866	-	„ 84	-	„ 1,477 $\frac{1}{2}$

17. Up to the time of the hurricane the prospects of the Colony as regards the production of fruit and cotton were very promising. The pine-apple crop had been shipped, and showed an increase of 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., viz., from 219,000 dozens to 255,000 dozens without any decrease in the value. But the crop of oranges was destroyed. The value of those exported fell from 5,745*l.* to 469*l.* The hurricane, however, not only stripped the orange trees, but uprooted them to a great extent, affecting the crops of the present and succeeding years; and the pine fields were so damaged as to have reduced the crop of this year by one half or more.

18. The cotton fields were much damaged, and the planters proportionately discouraged. Last year the expected crop of Long Island alone was estimated at 20,000*l.* The export of the whole Colony was only valued at 6,947*l.* This, however, was an advance upon that of the preceding year, which amounted to only 2,360*l.*

Imports and Exports.

19. It is difficult to say whether the effects of the exceptional trade of 1862-65 had altogether ceased during 1866; but if they had, the results of the year are satisfactory, since the value of imports and exports, as compared with the average of 1860-61, the years immediately preceding the war, shows a considerable increase, viz., of imports nearly one third (29.1 per cent.), and of exports nearly one half (48.3 per cent.).

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1860	234,029	157,350
1861	274,584	195,584
1862	1,250,322	1,007,755
1863	4,295,316	3,368,567
1864	5,346,112	4,672,398
1865	1,470,467	2,063,474
1866	328,622	261,976

20. The trade of the Colony with each country in the last two years, of which the first was exceptional, and in 1861, with which the last may be most properly compared, is shown in the following statement:—

Imports.

	1861.	1865.	1866.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	51,025	417,326	52,124
British North America	166	13,661	1,416
„ West Indies	933	117,638	6,989
	52,124	548,625	60,529
France	2,851	6,100	—
„ Colonies of	—	125	628
Denmark,	—	3,963	—
Spain	14,775	42,522	20,421
Hayti	2,313	31,083	4,199
United States	136,002	808,898	133,706
Mexico	—	934	1,479
Brazil	—	200	—
Wrecks	66,519	28,017	107,660
Total	274,584	1,470,467	328,622

BAHAMAS.

Exports.

	1861.	1865.	1866.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	43,901	1,385,646	63,012
British North America -	2,304	198,243	6,170
„ West Indies -	3,170	5,114	4,763
	49,375	1,589,003	73,945
France -	36,210	42,617	9,902
Denmark, Colonies of -	—	21,102	—
Spain do. -	4,673	105,007	7,990
Hayti -	1,299	19,746	4,077
United States -	104,027	207,786	160,884
Mexico -	—	78,213	47
Central America -	—	—	5,131
Total -	195,584	2,063,474	261,976

21. From the above it will be seen :—

1st. As regards imports in 1866 as compared with 1861, that the greater portion of the increase has arisen from wrecks, but that a trade has sprung up with the other British Colonies in North America and West Indies.

2nd. As regards exports, that the increase has been general, except as regards France, which is accounted for by an exceptionally large export of foreign cotton in 1861, and by a falling off in the export of sponge.

22. The exports of native productions has not materially increased in the last three years, viz. :—

	£
1864 -	62,478
1865 -	71,420*
1866 -	77,604

23. The increase in the exportation of pine apples and cotton has already been noticed. The export of salt decreased from 10,057℥ to 6,879℥, while that of sponge increased from 20,690℥ to 29,299℥.

Wrecks.

24. The number of wrecks and casualties in 1866 was unusually large, not only caused by the hurricane of October, but by the storms of January.

	Wrecks.	Casualties.	Total.
1864 -	48	19	67
1865 -	30	31	61
1866 -	63	31	94

25. The excess of wrecks was chiefly on the windward side of the islands, as was to be expected.

	1864.	1865.	1866.
To Windward :—			
North-east, Little Bahama Bank -	5	5	14
East, Great ditto -	10	7	16
South-east, ditto ditto -	13	2	12
South, ditto ditto -	1	1	1
To Leeward :—			
West, ditto ditto -	6	7	9
On the Great Bank -	1	4	6
Central, ditto -	10	3	2
North-west, Little Bahama Bank -	2	1	3
Total -	48	30	63

* After correcting an erroneous entry in the published accounts of that year which recorded an exportation of native instead of foreign mahogany, to the value of 5,650℥.

26. The number of wrecks and casualties which occurred in each month is shown in the following statement. The increase in September was also attributable to the hurricane which passed over the more southerly Islands of the group on the last day of that month. The return does not show the full effects of that visitation, because it does not include small colonial vessels, and because the month of October in 1865 was also very disastrous to shipping. It can be better gathered from this fact, that the wrecks, exclusive of casualties, which occurred in the month of October during the eight years 1858-64, were only 10 in number, or little more than one a year, In 1865 they were eight, and in 1866 as many as 20.

Months.	1865.	1866.
January - - - - -	2	20
February - - - - -	4	5
March - - - - -	2	2
April - - - - -	7	6
May - - - - -	6	2
June - - - - -	—	7
July - - - - -	1	3
August - - - - -	1	6
September - - - - -	3	7
October - - - - -	20	27
November - - - - -	7	3
December - - - - -	8	6
Total - - - - -	61	94

27. The influence of the cessation of the civil war in restoring the normal proportion of British and American vessels frequenting these seas will be seen in the following statement, showing the nationality of wrecks and casualties :—

	1864.	1865.	1866.
British - - - - -	42	27	38
American - - - - -	18	24	53
French - - - - -	2	1	1
Spanish - - - - -	—	2	1
Dutch - - - - -	—	1	—
Swedish - - - - -	1	—	1
Danish - - - - -	—	1	—
Hamburg - - - - -	1	—	—
Bremen - - - - -	—	2	—
Unknown - - - - -	3	3	—
Total - - - - -	67	61	94

28. The nature of the cargoes in each of the last years is shown in the following statement. The increase in the number of ships laden with lumber indicates one of the consequences of the revival of trade between the northern and southern sections of the United States.

	Wrecks.		Casualties.	
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.
Assorted - - - - -	11	13	9	16
Colonial Produce :—				
Sugar, &c. - - - - -	1	—	5	3
Coffee, &c. - - - - -	3	3	1	1
Rum and Sugar - - - - -	1	—	—	—
Cotton - - - - -	—	2	3	2
Tobacco - - - - -	—	1	—	—
Provisions :—				
Cattle - - - - -	1	—	—	—
Fruit - - - - -	—	2	1	—
Lime and Potatoes - - - - -	—	1	1	—
Fish - - - - -	1	—	—	—
Flour and Wine - - - - -	—	1	—	1
Salt - - - - -	—	—	3	2

BAHAMAS.

	Wrecks.		Casualties.	
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.
Timber :—				
Lumber	3	8	—	8
Cooperage	1	1	1	2
Hard Woods	2	5	1	3
Other :—				
Coals	4	3	—	—
Copper ore	—	1	—	—
Guano	—	—	1	2
Ice and Cooperage	—	—	—	1
Machinery	—	—	—	1
Passengers	—	—	1	—
In ballast	1	5	2	6
Not stated	1	—	2	—
Total	30	46	31	48

29. An increase in the value of wrecked property landed, and of duties received therefrom, has been the natural consequence of the large increase in the number of wrecks, although the duties have not yielded in proportion to the increased value of the property.

	Value.	Duties.
	£	£
1864	51,414	5,580
1865	28,017	2,594
1866	107,660	4,541

30. Of the total number of wrecks and casualties in 1866, 30 are attributable to the hurricane of October. Of these only two were subjected to the usual inquiry as to the cause of the accident. As regards the remainder, inquiries were held in 35 cases, and the reports printed and distributed in the Colony, and sent to Her Majesty's Government for transmission to the Board of Trade and Lloyd's Committee, as usual.

31. There has been a decrease in the number of vessels licensed for wrecking during the year, but an increase in the number of men.

	1865.	1866.
Vessels	230	161
Men	1,045	1,502

32. The operation of the recent law, which excludes vessels and boats under five tons burthen, is seen in the above return, and the degree in which it affected the several islands is shown in the following statement :—

Vessels licensed for Wrecking in each Island.

	1865.		1866.	
	No.	No.	Tonnage.	Men.
New Providence	113	89	2,096	927
Inagua	46	19	143	142
Abaco	44	30	314	248
Harbour Island	20	5	211	54
Long Cay (Crooked Island)	5	16	165	126
Eleuthera	1	1	37	5
Long Island	1	1	18	None.
Total	230	161	2,984	1,502

Shipping.

33. The shipping returns show, as was to be expected, a continued falling off :—

Entered in 1865,	770 vessels,	124,669 tonnage.
„ 1866,	504 „	62,062 „

34. But, differing from last year, the out-islands have shared in this reduction, though BAHAMAS. not to an equal extent.

Entered the out-islands in 1865, 225 vessels, 18,055 tonnage.

" " 1866, 202 " 14,029 "

35. It is useless to compare the trade of last year carried on with different countries with that of any of the immediately preceding years, but not so with any year before the war, say, 1860.

Countries.	ENTERED.		Per-centage proportion.	
	No. of Tons.			
	1860.	1866.	1860.	1866.
United Kingdom -	2,216	3,302	7·6	5·4
British North America	154	1,175	·5	2·
British West Indies -	5,637	4,490	19·2	7·3
France -	616	—	2·1	—
United States -	16,817	37,821	57·2	61·1
Colonies of Spain -	2,449	12,795	8·3	20·2
" France -	—	429	—	·7
" Denmark -	221	189	·8	·3
Hayti -	1,278	1,861	4·3	3·
Total -	29,388	62,062	100·	100·

Countries.	CLEARED.		Per-centage proportion.	
	No. of Tons.			
	1860.	1866.	1860.	1866.
United Kingdom -	2,926	3,750	9·6	6·3
British North America	2,679	1,328	8·8	2·3
British West Indies -	1,688	1,814	5·5	3·1
France -	1,419	422	4·6	·8
United States -	18,437	37,585	60·4	62·4
Colonies of Spain -	2,545	13,412	8·3	22·4
" Denmark -	—	24	—	·1
Hayti -	846	1,276	2·8	2·1
Mexico -	—	176	—	·3
Central America -	—	101	—	·2
Total -	30,540	59,888	100·	100·

36. These returns show that the shipping trade has doubled since 1860, and that the increase, both inwards and outwards, has been chiefly with the United States and Cuba.

37. British and Colonial shipping have obtained the larger portion of this increase, although American shipping has doubled.

	Tonnage entered.	
	1860.	1866.
British -	2,216	18,220
" Colonial -	15,652	22,281
French -	741	448
Spanish -	66	406
German -	—	200
America -	10,390	20,363
Haytian -	323	144
Total -	29,388	62,062

BAHAMAS. 38. The progress of the trade of the several islands is shown in the following statement :—

		Tonnage entered.		
		1860.	1865.	1866.
New Providence (Nassau)	-	15,649	106,614	48,033
Inagua	-	6,348	8,288	4,673
Harbour Island	-	2,688	3,287	3,569
Long Cay (Crooked Island)	-	1,545	1,814	2,760
Eleuthera	-	1,540	1,554	1,716
Abaco	-	1,151	876	555
Ragged Island	-	276	1,300	422
Rum Cay	-	191	273	320
Long Island	-	—	613	—
Exuma	-	—	50	14
Total	-	29,388	124,697	62,062

39. The number and tonnage of vessels built in the several islands was :—

		No.	Tons.
New Providence	-	2	17
Abaco	-	5	48
Harbour Island	-	1	3
Eleuthera	-	1	7
Grand Bahama	-	1	10
Inagua	-	1	10
Ragged Island	-	1	6
Total	-	13	159

40. The total number and tonnage of vessels registered in the Colony was considerably reduced last year, and those of American vessels dwindled to what it was before the civil war.

		No.	Tons.
Total registered,	1865	80	10,338
"	1866	29	8,231
		No.	Tons.
American-built vessels registered as British,	1865	42	5,252
"	1866	2	532

Trade.

41. *Exchange*.—The rate on London has remained about the same, fluctuating between 3 and 4 per cent. The Commissariat drew only in the last quarter at those rates of premium.

42. *Public Bank*.—The contraction of the mercantile business of this city has led to a further great diminution in the transactions of the bank.

		Receipts.	Payments.
		£	£
1863	-	2,128,721	1,988,661
1864	-	3,585,574	3,413,995
1865	-	1,722,601	1,905,557
1866	-	795,604	889,823

43. The cash balance at the end of the year had again decreased by one half, but was still one half greater than at the end of 1862.

		£
1861	-	44,509
1862	-	61,691
1863	-	201,746
1864	-	373,324
1865	-	190,363
1866	-	96,149

44. The reduction has been chiefly in American gold, and in silver, of which by far the larger portion in circulation is American. BAHAMAS.

	1865.	1866.
	£	£
Gold, English	28,322	15,345
„ American	47,828	6,416
„ Spanish	19,908	15,705
„ French	41	—
Silver	94,247	58,683
Total	190,363	96,149

45. The surplus interest received from the bank during the year was 950*l.* In 1866 it was 700*l.*

46. *Savings Bank*.—This institution has continued to retrograde during the year. The number of accounts opened during that period was only 3; the number closed was 6; the amount deposited was 24*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*; the amount withdrawn was 424*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* The number of depositors at the end of the year was 143. The amount of their deposits was 4,147*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*

Post Office.

47. Nothing can indicate more unmistakeably the closing of the transactions arising out of the late civil war, and the return of the Colony to its ordinary commercial condition than the returns of the Post Office for the last year. At the same time they exhibit either an increase of the interinsular communication, or the effect of the increased postal arrangements upon the transmission of letters by the monthly mail schooner.

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Letters sent out of the Colony	43,903	29,794	17,163
Ditto, Interinsular	1,309	1,845	2,762
Ditto, Registered	1,934	1,135	378
Newspapers	11,671	8,516	7,372
Book Parcels	82	115	82

48. The revenue exhibits a corresponding decrease, from 454*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* to 249*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* The insignificance of this amount is explained by the fact that the Imperial Post Office takes eleven-twelfths of the postage between Nassau and England, and the whole of the postage between Nassau and New York, although the Colony contributes half of the annual subsidy (3,000*l.*) for the maintenance of a steamer running monthly between the last two places.

49. The number of Money Orders and the amount of commission upon them have continued to increase.

	1865.	1866.
Number	690	1,032
Commission	5,318	8,207

Bankruptcies and Actions for Debt.

50. No bankruptcy or insolvency was pronounced during the year. There has been a decrease in the number of writs issued by the General Court and in the claims for debt, &c. prosecuted in the Court of Common Pleas, viz. :—

	1865.	1866.
General Court.—Writs issued	190	132
„ Civil Actions tried	65	63
Court of Common Pleas.—Claims for Debt	768	770
„ Trover and Detinue, &c.	73	30

Prices and Wages.

51. Both continue to decline, but not without strenuous efforts on the part of the labouring classes to uphold the rate of wages; and many are believed to prefer remaining altogether without employment than to accept reduced terms, or labouring for two or three days a week on high terms, than to work continuously on such as employers would be willing to give.

BAHAMAS.

Public Market, Nassau.

52.—The receipts exhibit a further decrease in 1866.

	£
1864	1,184
1865	874
1866	624

53. It is hoped that the competition of the stock growers of the Out-Islands with the Nassau butchers, which has lately been effected by a change in the market arrangements, will tend both to increase the supplies of meat and to improve the revenue.

Revenue and Expenditure.

54. The revenue of the year exhibited a large, but not unexpected reduction, amounting to 40 per cent., viz., from 84,487*l.* in 1865 to 51,080*l.* The expenditure was not capable of a corresponding immediate reduction, and the liquidation of heavy engagements undertaken in past years pressed heavily on the Treasury in 1866. The reduction amounted only to 1,564*l.*, viz., from 78,549*l.* to 76,985*l.* The balance in the public chest was reduced from 30,129*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* to 4,616*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*

55. The deficiency is spread over the customs, tonnage dues, warehousing charges, and all the duties which bore upon ships and cargoes carrying on the blockade running trade. The customs yielded 34,408*l.*, instead of 61,009*l.*

56. As regards the expenditure, there was a retrenchment of 6,970*l.* upon the establishments, and an increase of 6,417*l.* upon appropriations for public works, which includes the first instalment of 6,860*l.* on account of the New Prison, commenced in Nassau under Acts of past years.

Military.

57. Part of the detachment of troops which was sent to Jamaica in September 1865 returned in April, and the remainder in August of this year. The wing of Her Majesty's 1st West India regiment was relieved in December by a wing of Her Majesty's 2nd West. After the occurrence of the hurricane Her Majesty's Government sanctioned the temporary suspension of the projected works for the defence of Nassau.

Meteorology.

58. Owing to the destruction by the same cause of several of the instruments used by the military authorities in taking the only meteorological observations methodically recorded in Nassau, I am unable to offer the same statements as in preceding years. I have already noticed the prevalence of violent storms in January, and of a destructive hurricane in October. The course and effects of the latter are detailed in the Appendix.

Conclusion.

59. No event of importance has occurred during the year except the hurricane. Its consequences cannot well be foreseen; whether it will stimulate the people to greater exertion and provision for the future, or discourage them and check their progress. In Nassau it has led to an improvement in the appearance of the city. Many old buildings disfiguring the streets have disappeared; a few of the injured buildings have been pulled down; the others have been restored. The work of renovation has been general, and the aspect of the city is changed only by the diminution of the trees and foliage, which has even tended to increase its salubrity, while the condition and resources of the community do not appear to have suffered any material permanent injury. The latter remark applies generally to the Out-Islands, but I regret to have to add, in explanation, that this is rather owing to the low state of both before the visitation, than to the elasticity and energy which have had so beneficial an effect in hastening on the work of restoration in New Providence.

RAWSON A. RAWSON,
Governor.

TRINIDAD.

TRINIDAD.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Honourable ARTHUR H. GORDON to his
Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 144.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Trinidad, November 8, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of this Island for
the year 1866, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham
and Chandos,

(Signed) ARTHUR GORDON.

&c.

&c.

&c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF TRINIDAD FOR THE YEAR 1866.

Taxes and Duties.

The taxes and duties levied in 1866 were the same as in 1865.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1866, 226,218*l.*, exceeded that of 1865 by 6,900*l.*, the chief increase being in the amount of import duty received, which in 1866 was 5,082*l.* more than in 1865.

The expenditure of 1866 was 203,428*l.*, being 18,857*l.* less than that of 1865, and 22,790*l.* less than the revenue received in 1866. It must, however, be borne in mind that the redemption of the public debt and the sums received from local and other sources in aid of that redemption are included in the amounts here given as the expenditure and revenue respectively.

Public Debt.

By the payments made in 1866 the public debt of the Colony was reduced from 179,500*l.* to 172,800*l.* An explanation of the several items of the debt will be found in the Blue Book reports of previous years.

Legislation.

The only legislative measure of 1866 which deserves special notice is the Ordinance No. 8, for the establishment of Estates' Hospitals, a measure which has already worked much good, and which has on the whole been carried out with praiseworthy diligence on the part of the planters, although involving a very heavy outlay on their part.

Works and Buildings.

The wharf extension works were steadily proceeded with during 1866, but their cost has greatly exceeded the original estimate, whilst their utility appears to me scarcely commensurate with the sums expended on them, or the expectations originally entertained.

Extensive repairs and alterations in the Colonial Hospital at Sanfernando were also undertaken, to the great improvement of that institution.

TRINIDAD.

The other public works of the year 1866 were of too trifling a description to merit a detailed enumeration.

It must, however, be borne in mind that an urgent necessity exists for the commencement of many new public works so soon as the financial position of the Colony admits of such a course.

Imports and Exports.

The trade and production of the Colony as reflected in the customs returns show a moderate and pretty regular increase. Thus the imports and exports of the four last years were as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1863 - -	- 710,972	796,497
1864 - -	- 883,940	1,101,510
1865 - -	- 810,347	820,109
1866 - -	- 878,357	1,022,338

Shipping.

The shipping of 1866 showed an increase in tonnage over that of previous years; it was as follows:—

	Entered.	Cleared.
1865 -	136,749 tons.	127,447 tons.
1866 -	138,801 „	142,503 „

Agriculture.

The returns of acreage are made up from details furnished by the wardens of the several Ward Unions into which the Colony is divided; and they are based upon a triennial assessment made by Commissioners appointed for the purpose in each ward. The last assessment was made in 1866, and by it it appears that the quantity of land under cultivation in canes had increased from 36,739 acres in 1863, when the previous assessment was made, to 40,437 acres. The increase in the area occupied in the cultivation of other articles is scarcely noticeable. It should be recollected that it is the practice for agriculturists here on the approach of the period of assessment to permit such portions of land as they can spare from immediate use to go out of cultivation in order that it may be assessed at the lower rate imposed on uncultivated land; and immediately upon the completion of the assessment the cultivation is resumed. Cacao plantations cannot be treated in this way.

There are no means of ascertaining the quantity of sugar consumed in the Colony, and the quantity of that staple given in these returns is consequently that of exports only. It amounted in 1866 to 91,094,000 lbs. The average export of sugar during the years 1839-40-41, being the first three after emancipation, was 26,856,600 lbs., whilst the average for the years 1864-65-66 was 77,640,700 lbs.

The favourable state of the market for cacao has given an impulse to the growth of that article, which is being gradually exhibited in increased production. But the length of time (seven years) necessary for the full development of a cacao plantation prevents a very rapid rise in the quantity grown, and the real increase is further masked by the fluctuations from year to year in the crops gathered. In 1839 and 1840 the crops of cacao do not seem to have been gathered; but for the next three years (1841-42-43) we have an average of 2,810,000 lbs. An average for the three years 1864-65-66 gives 5,772,850 lbs. The crop of 1866 was, however, a small one.

The cultivation of cotton, which the American civil war at one time seemed likely to revive, has again declined, and the quantity produced in 1866 was returned at *nil*. But some parts of the Colony are well adapted to the plant, which grows with little care and produces favourable crops.

As regards the only other staple of any note, viz., coffee, although a small quantity is still exported, the production is little more than sufficient for home consumption.

The steady increase for some years past in the price of articles of ordinary consumption is to some extent exhibited in the Blue Book returns. The following figures include some articles not mentioned in the returns.

Average Prices of Articles of Consumption.

TRINIDAD.

		1850.	1860.	1866.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Wheaten flour, per barrel	-	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 10 0	
Salt fish, per 100 lbs.	-	0 13 6	0 18 9	1 3 0	
Corn meal, per barrel	-	0 16 8	1 0 0	1 7 0	
Fowls, per dozen	-	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 8 0	
Rice, per 100 lbs.	-	0 15 0	0 15 0	1 5 0	
Maize, per 100 lbs.	-	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 12 6	
Plantains, per 100	-	0 4 2	0 5 0	0 9 0	
Tanais, per barrel	-	0 3 0	0 3 0	0 12 6	
Beef, per lb.	-	0 0 5	0 0 8	0 0 10	

Gaols.

The number of prisoners in confinement at Michaelmas 1866 is given at 355, and the total number of prisoners committed in the course of the year was 2,781. The largest number confined at any one time was 447. Although these prisoners are all committed nominally to the Royal Gaol, yet a great number of them are sent to, and worked at, out-stations, of which there are five; and most of those sentenced to long periods are employed at the Irois Convict Dépôt in cutting and hauling timber.

Of the total of 2,781 prisoners confined in the gaols of the Island in 1866, 1,158 were Indian and 905 Chinese immigrants; 245 were natives of Trinidad, and the remaining 373 were chiefly from the British Antilles. A very large proportion of the immigrants are imprisoned for short periods for being found absent from their work without leave and for breach of contract.

Charitable Institutions, &c.

The most remarkable feature in this return is the increase exhibited in the number of patients in the Port of Spain and San Fernando Hospitals on the 31st December 1866. The following are the figures:—

	1865.	1866.
Port of Spain Hospital	119	172
San Fernando ditto	68	137

But these numbers do not represent the maxima of patients in these institutions which were on several occasions much higher, so that it became necessary to draft off a number of the patients of the former establishment to the Convalescent Dépôt at Long Island. Some of the patients of the San Fernando Hospital were also sent to the same place; and for the accommodation of the remaining surplus a house was hired in the neighbourhood of the hospital. The number of inmates of the hospitals has, however, been reduced by the Immigrants' Hospitals Ordinance, No. 8, of 1866, which has lessened the pressure upon the public establishments of those cases (amongst the indentured immigrants) which can be efficiently treated upon the estate and under the charge of its medical attendant.

BARBADOS.

BARBADOS.

No. 7.

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 679.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Windward Islands, Barbados, November 27, 1867.

THE period of the year has now arrived at which it has been usual to make the annual report on the condition and prospects of this Island.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

2. In the mode of raising the revenue there was no change in 1866 further than by the repeal of an additional rate of .25 per cent. on the customs duties, which had been imposed in 1864 to meet an excess of expenditure.

BARBADOS.

The object was fully attained, and there is now a considerable surplus in the Treasury.

3. The present tariff is a moderate one, and contrasts favourably with that of most of our neighbours.

Fees of Public Officers.

4. There has been no alteration in the fees collected at the several public offices, a considerable portion of which goes to the credit of the Colony; and I have heard of no complaint respecting them.

Revenue and Expenditure.

5. The following is a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the five years ending with 1866 :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1862	93,682	93,461
1863	102,572	104,795
1864	107,391	104,384
1865	* 98,870	99,383
1866	103,935	95,838

6. Of the revenue in 1866 the sum of 60,000*l.* was produced by import and tonnage duties, nearly 6,000*l.* by the sale of licences to retail beer and spirits, and between 16,000*l.* and 17,000*l.* by the tax of one shilling per gallon on all rum consumed in the Island.

7. Considering the number and nature of the establishments which are necessary in so populous a place as this, the expenditure is not large. The truth is, that the salaries of most of the public servants are wretchedly small, and that those only are candidates for public employment who do not see their way in any other walk of life. Still their name is legion, but the circumstance will not be very surprising to your Grace when I mention to you that there are in Barbados nearly 17,000 white people and a large class of coloured inhabitants whose sphere of employment from climate and other causes is necessarily limited.

8. The import and tonnage duties during the last five years have been as follows :—

	£
1862	51,430
1863	50,945
1864	56,735
1865	60,075
1866	61,628

9. The expense of collecting the customs' duties has been a little over 6 per cent.

10. The Post Office over and above its revenue continues to form a charge to the public of something like 600*l.* a year, but there is a daily delivery throughout the Island, and the general convenience of the institution is very great.

11. There has been a marked diminution in the expenditure under the head of Gaols and Prisons in 1865 and 1866 as compared with those of previous years. In some measure this is owing to the number of prisoners in these two years being at times much smaller than usual, but it must be attributed in a greater degree to the establishment and success of a new system under which the food and clothing of the prisoners are all prepared inside the prison walls by the females.

Local Revenues.

12. The Parochial Rates and Expenses for 1866 present no new feature. Thanks to a succession of several genial seasons and the consequent continuous demand for labour, the call for relief comes chiefly from the old and the infirm.

13. The Local Highway Rates on horses and carriages, subsidized by votes from the Public Treasury to the amount of 5,450*l.*, continue to be administered very successfully by Parochial Commissioners, and the roads throughout the Island are in excellent order.

Public Debt.

14. The general Public Debt has been extinguished, and the only unsatisfied claim against the public of any consequence, which was on account of the purchase of land in the Burnt District, has also been satisfied. More than this, there is now a balance to

* This sum was stated in the Blue Book for 1865 to be 103,533*l.*, but it included a sum of 4,663*l.* surplus revenue from 1864.

the credit of the public, partly in the Treasurer's hands and partly on deposit in the Colonial Bank, amounting to upwards of 16,000*l.* sterling. BARBADOS.

Military Expenditure.

15. Since the date of my last report a mounted corps has been organized under the Militia Bill passed in 1866; but the opposition which has been manifested throughout to its formation has not diminished. The estimate prepared and sent in to the Assembly by the Militia Board for the clothing of the men was rejected by the House, and although some of the troops have supplied themselves with a simple uniform at their own expense, and all have assembled and drilled under adverse circumstances, I have not been able to unite the proprietary body, particularly the representatives of some of the largest absentees, in the support of a local force. The unpopularity of the measure has been promoted and increased by the heavy tax of 1*s.* per acre which was levied for the support of the militia. That part of the scheme emanated from liberal gentlemen on the spot, who themselves had to pay it; but it has had the effect of making the measure very unpalatable to the small holders, who have in consequence been an easy prey to the agitators against the establishment of all militia or volunteer forces.

16. A bill was passed in the Assembly in the early part of last session to repeal the Militia Act, but it was unanimously rejected by the Council.

Public Works.

17. In my report of last year I referred to the stoppage of the works connected with the erection of a swing bridge over the Careenage, and to the inquiry instituted by the House of Assembly into their conduct and progress. The investigation was carried on with a feeling very hostile to the Governor and Council, and was promoted and supported by the same members who had sent up a bill to repeal the Militia Act.

18. I have no wish to dwell upon this unseemly business, and indeed this would not be the proper place to do it, particularly as some kind of shame has been latterly exhibited at the manner in which a most important work has been so long and uselessly suspended, and as the Governor in Council has recently been addressed by the House of Assembly with the view of having the work completed, I hope, therefore, that it will not be long before a satisfactory report is made to your Grace of its progress.

Legislation.

19. The Legislation of 1866 was of a less important character than in several preceding years. The first six months of the year belonged to the session 1865-6,—your Grace must be reminded that we have annual Parliaments here,—and were not altogether barren of results. The Legislature passed the Act, about which there has been so much noise since, for the formation of a local force; it gave additional support to the Public Library; it adopted the laws of the mother country in regard to Joint Stock Companies; it assisted several parochial efforts to improve the accommodation of the people and the comfort of the clergy, and it effected some minor reforms in the administration of the vestries.

20. In the new Assembly, which was returned on the 13th of July 1866, nothing was attempted during the rest of the year except the abortive bill to repeal the Militia Law, the time of the House being taken up with a controverted election, and the discussions about the bridge.

As the session drew to a close this year, however, the Legislature somewhat redeemed itself by one or two useful measures. Of these, the principal were, the establishment of a harbour police, an additional education grant, and the restoration of the Assistant Court of Appeal to its original number of three judges.

Council and Assembly.

21. Since the date of my last report there has been no change in the Council.

22. In the Assembly there has been this year an addition to the anti-militia party. The late Speaker of the House having retired, his place as member for St. Andrew's parish has been supplied by his brother, who has been a strong supporter of a local force; but the Auditor-General has been driven from the House, and been succeeded by Mr. Springer, who is opposed to all militia; and if the changes which have taken place in other parishes have not added to the number of members opposed to the Government on this question, neither have they added much to the weight and character of the opposition.

Civil Establishment.

23. The only change of any consequence which has lately occurred in the civil establishment of the Island is the appointment of Mr. Gore to the Colonial Secretaryship in the room of Mr. Holligan transferred to British Guiana.

24. The increase of the Assistant Court of Appeal has led also to the confirmation of Mr. Prescod, who had long acted provisionally, as one of the judges.

Population.

25. It is impossible to form a reliable estimate of the increase which has taken place in the population of the Island since the last census in 1861. There is no doubt, however, but that it has been considerable, notwithstanding the drain which goes on to all the other Colonies. The emigration to Demerara continues, but not by any means on the same scale as formerly. It is now nearly confined to the males, many of whom visit their families and friends in Barbados at holiday time, Easter and Christmas.

Education.

26. I annex a table exhibiting the standard attained in the several schools in connexion with the Education Committee in the year 1866.

27. In sending me this return the Inspector of Schools remarks:

"The 2,500*l.* annually spent by the Legislature on the public schools has this year been increased to 3,000*l.*, in consideration of the additional expense attending the education of augmented numbers in the primary schools, and to permit of the extension of the primary school plan to the infant schools.

"The relation of our poorest classes to the education system supported by the Government has become such that the most necessitous parent, prepared to feed and cheaply clothe his child, ought nowhere to be found in the Island, who may not by the mere asking procure instruction for his offspring within easy distance of home, from a fairly efficient teacher, in a decent apartment suitably furnished, and fairly found in school materials. Where exceptions to this statement are found the apathy of the local" (he means the district or parish) "authorities, not a deficient liberality on the part of the Legislature, will be discovered to be the cause."

Trade and Shipping.

28. The following is a statement of the imports and exports for the last five years:—

				Imports.	Exports.
				£	£
1862	-	-	-	913,141	1,067,612
1863	-	-	-	878,208	981,142
1864	-	-	-	910,081	925,957
1865	-	-	-	953,334	1,161,159
1866	-	-	-	988,082	1,246,844

29. The produce exported from the Island has been considerably overvalued, a circumstance not so likely to occur in regard to the imports. The price put upon the sugar is 15*l.* per hogshead, which is much above the average sum at which it was sold.

30. The sugar crop for the last five years may be stated as follows:—

				Hogsheads.
				No.
1862	-	-	-	46,078
1863	-	-	-	42,436
1864	-	-	-	36,199
1865	-	-	-	47,209
1866	-	-	-	57,892

31. As I have before remarked the crop of 1866 was much the largest ever made in the Island. That which has been shipped in 1867, equal to 53,387 hogsheads, was from the state of the English market perhaps altogether a better paying one.

32. The value of the cotton exported from the Island in 1866 was nearly 10,000*l.*

33. The tonnage inwards during 1866 amounted to 171,370. In 1865 it had been 159,372. Of British registered vessels there were 147,144 tons in 1866, to 136,367 tons in 1865.

Mines and Fisheries.

34. Several attempts at boring for oil have been made lately, but without success. One enterprising American, after spending a good deal of time and money, has entirely

abandoned the scheme. Another gentleman, an Englishman, is meeting with just enough BARBADOS.
of appearances to induce him to persevere.

35. Also under American auspices there has been a whale fishery established round the Island, but with, I fear, limited success.

Gaols and Crime.

36. The amount of prisoners in confinement, both as regards 1866 and the present year, will compare not unfavourably with the number in former years. In 1866 there were two cases of murder, in one of which the prisoner was acquitted on the ground of insanity, and in the other sentence of death was carried out. But with these two exceptions and a few burglaries, the offences were generally of no great magnitude; indeed the bulk of them consisted of thefts of sugar canes and growing provisions. I am glad to have it in my power to make an equally good report for 1867, with the gratifying addition that it has not been marked by any crime of a capital nature.

37. The ticket-of-leave system is still acted upon as far as previous good conduct and freedom from former convictions will permit. Of the prisoners to whom this indulgence was granted in 1866, only one male and one female were re-committed. In 1867 there has been no re-commitment of any one to whom a ticket-of leave was given.

But in consequence of the large number of old offenders in confinement, the system is necessarily restricted in its operation.

General Remarks.

38. Both the trade and the agriculture of Barbados may be said to be in a highly prosperous condition.

The former is increasing every year by reason of the Island becoming more and more the mart whence all the other West India Islands obtain their supplies of food, lumber, and indeed everything they want. The smaller Islands have quite given up all direct communication with America, and even Trinidad begins to find it advantageous to send up here for "breadstuffs" instead of having them consigned direct from the United States.

39. Nothing can be more complete than the cultivation of the soil, and it has been carried I fancy to its utmost extent. But the persons who are doing all this are not as a class earning for themselves more than a bare subsistence. Whether as the representatives of absentee proprietors or as owners of estates which they have purchased at ruinous prices and subject to an amount of debt, the interest of which generally absorbs the entire profits of their crops, these industrious and skilful men plod on from year to year, and end just where they commenced, with a load of debt which necessitates the transfer of the property to some other, of whom there are scores ready to pass through the same ordeal.

By these latter transactions the general prosperity of the Colony is not affected, however calamitous they may prove to individuals. The land which they acquired on such hard terms is kept up to the highest mark of cultivation to secure such a return as will enable the holder to pay the interest on his liabilities; more than this, as I have said, he seldom does. But the system yields employment to the labourer, and a considerable portion of the interest money is payable to residents on the spot and is therefore spent in the Island.

40. Then there is another class of properties, now I lament to say, few, very few in number, unencumbered or slightly encumbered, but blessed with resident landlords who shine out with a lustre which reflects the most beneficial rays on all around them.

41. But it is rare that the owner of an unencumbered estate selects to reside in Barbados. The finest properties in the Island belong to absentees. The best blood of the place is squeezed out of it and is sent to England never to return in any shape. How this dense mass of people continues to get on not comfortably but contentedly against this continual and enormous drain on the resources of the Island is to me sometimes a puzzle. It is no doubt a mere daily struggle from hand to mouth, and is not considered until drought or some other visitation arrests the ordinary march of affairs, reveals the poverty and helplessness of the poor proprietors on the spot, and awakens us to the grievous absence of those real owners of the soil who alone are able to give a helping hand, whose duty it is most to give it, but whose distance from the spot and other circumstances keep them in ignorance of the condition of their peasantry and devoid of sympathy for their wants.

42. Outwardly everything looks well. The season has been a genial one, the face of the country presents a most beautiful appearance, and there is great promise of a crop far above the average. There is a brisk demand for labour, and I hear no murmurs from either the employed or the employer.

BARBADOS.

43. The general health of the Island is good. There have been a few sporadic cases of yellow fever, two of them amongst the white troops in garrison, who have in consequence been moved into the country; and on the whole, while many of our less fortunate neighbours have been the victims of pestilence and hurricane and other disturbances of nature, we have every reason to be grateful that a merciful Providence has vouchsafed to us a special protection.

The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS WALKER.

RESULTS of EXAMINATIONS in the PRIMARY SCHOOLS throughout 1866.

Religious Denominations.		Number of Schools.	Attendance at examinations.	Examinates.	Elementary Subjects.															Cate- chism	Eligible for higher subjects, having gained a first-class in all the elementary subjects.	Higher Subjects.						
					Reading Premiums.			Dictation Premiums.			Arithmetic Premiums.			Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, and Commandments.	Bible history.	History of England.	Grammar. Parse and easy sentence.	Geography.	Higher arithmetic ; Proportion, Practice, and Interest.			Vocal Music. Sol-fa, and easy melody at sight.						
					1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3															
Church of England	-	48	3,845	2,408	631	786	735	414	502	654	375	291	1,104	1,217	235	117	26	57	29	46	16							
Wesleyan	-	13	834	496	142	150	162	77	101	104	55	69	196	209	30	5	2	5	2	3	2							
Moravian	-	8	802	514	129	156	171	73	104	136	65	59	248	243	33	15	3	3	6	4	2							
Totals	-	69	5,481	3,418	902	1,092	1,068	564	707	894	495	419	1,548	1,669	298	137	31	65	37	53	20							

ST. VINCENT.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 479.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Windward Islands, Barbados, August 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of St. Vincent for 1866, with the usual annual report from the Lieutenant-Governor on the state of the Island.

His Grace the Duke
of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES WALKER.

(No. 351.)

SIR,

Government House, St. Vincent, July 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866, and to report:—

Taxes.

The principal taxes in this Colony are:—

Import Duties.	Excise Duty on Rum.
Tonnage Duties.	Trade Licences.
Export Tax.	Spirit Licences.
Income Tax.	

The only new tax imposed during the year was the additional export tax, which, however, is not included in the general statement of revenue, as the product is devoted entirely to the purposes of immigration, a moiety of the general export tax being applied to the same service. The amount realized since the Act came into operation was 1,307*l*.

Fees.

ST. VINCENT.

The returns set forth at length the fees payable to the several public officers. On the 27th of August an Act was passed reducing considerably the scale of fees payable to the Chief Justice, and providing that those fees shall in future be received and paid into the Treasury for the public uses of the Government.

*Revenue and Expenditure.**Revenue.*

The revenue for the year amounted to 20,680*l.*, which, with a balance of 559*l.* from the previous year, left the sum of 21,239*l.* available for the public service. The revenue for the previous year amounted to 18,999*l.*, so that there was an excess of revenue in favour of 1866 of 2,240*l.*, and when it is borne in mind that the excess arose from a tariff identical with that of the previous year, and that the expenditure is further burdened with a contribution from the General Export Tax of 653*l.* in aid of immigration, it follows that the difference may be regarded as the result of a legitimate increase of revenue in 1866.

The amounts collected under the several principal heads of revenue were as follows :—

	£
Import Duties - -	10,678
Tonnage Duties - -	1,238
Additional Tonnage - -	337
Export Tax - -	1,565
Income Tax - -	978
Trade Licences - -	260
Excise on Rum - -	2,654
Retail Spirit Licences - -	1,380
Judicial Fines - -	1,008

I append a statement of the revenue for the past 10 years :—

	£
1857 - - -	19,767
1858 - - -	20,873
1859 - - -	19,911
1860 - - -	20,231
1861 - - -	20,851
1862 - - -	16,550
1863 - - -	19,388
1864 - - -	20,360
1865 - - -	18,999
1866 - - -	21,239

Expenditure.

The expenditure amounted to 20,281*l.*, and adverting to the fact that of this amount the sum of 2,546*l.* was expended upon services of a purely exceptional nature, and that an unappropriated balance of 957*l.* remained to the credit of the public on the 31st December 1866, the result cannot be looked upon in any but a favourable light. The amount to which I have alluded as not properly belonging to the regular expenditure of the Colony is made up of the following items :—

1,421*l.*, being the payment of the loan due by the Colony to the Immigration Fund.

500*l.*, water supply to hospital.

104*l.*, grant to Turk's Islands.

189*l.*, expenses contingent on recent fire.

332*l.*, sanatory and quarantine expenses.

*Local Revenues.**Immigration.*

The balance to the credit of this fund at the close of the year was 2,238*l.*, notwithstanding that the sum of 2,268*l.* was paid by the Colony for the expenses attendant upon the importation of Coolies ex "Countess of Ripon," and a further sum of 2,000*l.* was remitted to the Emigration Commissioners in London. This fund is raised under the provisions of an Act to which I have previously alluded, and which levies a duty on the exports of the Colony applicable exclusively to immigration purposes.

The fund is further aided by a contribution from the general revenue to the extent of one half of the amount collected under "The Additional Export Tax Act."

Public Debt.

ST. VINCENT.

Nil.

The balance borrowed by the general revenue from the Immigration Fund, amounting to 1,421*l.*, was repaid during the year.

Military Expenditure.

The sum of 839*l.* was paid by this Colony in support of the Militia and Volunteer forces. Of this amount 230*l.* was on account of salaries and allowances to officers, and 521*l.* for clothing, the small remaining balance of expenditure being for incidental purposes.

Militia and Volunteers.

This force amounts to 345 men of all arms, of which 41 belong to the troop of cavalry, 47 to the battery of artillery, and 257 to the infantry. The cavalry turn out for drill once a month, the other corps twice in each month.

The entire force was assembled at Kingstown in the month of August for the inspection of Major-General Ainslie, Commanding the Forces in the Windward and Leeward Islands, whose report was upon the whole favourable.

The want to which I reverted in my previous report, of an officer who has served in the regular army to direct and instruct the corps, has been supplied in the person of Major Charles Creagh, who arrived in the Colony on the 6th of August, and assumed the duties of Adjutant-General of Militia and Volunteers.

Public Works.

The most important public work undertaken during the year was the construction of a reservoir for furnishing the colonial hospital and the northern part of the town with a further supply of water. The reservoir is built close to the springs of the Montrose Estate, is nearly completed, and the pipes have been imported from England. The sum of 500*l.* has been voted from the public revenue for this service, but a further sum will be required.

The court-house and offices were shingled throughout, and put in good repair at a cost of 280*l.*; 100*l.* was expended on the repairs of St. Mary's Chapel, Buccament, which received serious injury from lightning; 200*l.* was contributed from the public revenue towards the erection of a chapel in the town of Layon, which has been commenced but is not yet finished; 1,116*l.* was expended upon the repairs of the roads.

Legislation.

Of 24 Acts passed during the year the most important were:—

1. "An Act for laying an additional Tax on Produce to provide a Fund for "Immigration Purposes." This Act levies an additional duty on exports, the proceeds of which are to be specially appropriated for the encouragement and support of immigration. The Act also requires that the treasurer shall at the expiration of every quarter transfer from the general revenue of the Colony a sum equal to one half of the aggregate amount received under this Act. The duration of the Act is limited to five years.
2. "An Act to declare the Law and Practice in cases of Escheat." This Act defines the duties of the Escheator-General in proceeding to escheat property to the Crown, and confers upon that officer the power of holding a second inquest should the finding of the jury in the first instance be adverse to the Crown. Provision is also made for the trial before the Judge of the Supreme Court of Judicature of all cases where the title is in dispute. Forms of proceedings and a docket of fees are also established.
3. "An Act to facilitate the Naturalization of Aliens." This Act authorizes the Governor in Council to consider the application of any alien resident in the Government seeking to be naturalized; and upon compliance with certain forms by the alien, to grant him a certificate under the Great Seal of the Colony, according to him all the rights of a British born subject within the Government.
4. "An Act to amend the Practice and Course of proceeding in the Court of "Chancery of St. Vincent," "An Act to make Provision for the more speedy "and efficient Despatch of Business in the Court of Chancery," and "An Act "to regulate the Payment of Fees payable to the Chief Justice, Chancellor, and "Vice-Chancellor." The two former of these Acts, as their title indicates, refer to the practice and course of proceeding in the Court of Chancery of the Colony. The latter Act repeals the docket of fees now payable to the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and to the Justices of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and establishes new dockets at considerably reduced rates. It also provides that the

fees payable to the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor and to the Chief Justice shall in future be received and paid into the Treasury for the public uses of the Government. ST. VINCENT.

5. "An Act to grant Facilities for depositing small Savings at Interest with the "Security of Government for the Repayment thereof." This Act is similar in its provisions to that in force at Barbados. In consequence of the short time that it has been in existence it is impossible to say how far its intentions may be fulfilled, and whether the class of people for whose benefit it was specially enacted will avail themselves of the advantages to be derived therefrom. I entertain considerable doubts on the subject, as the native labouring class generally are not inclined to habits of thrift, and the Coolie immigrants appear indisposed to trust their money out of their own keeping. There can be no doubt, however, that the establishment of such an institution is a step in advance.
6. "An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Administration of "Criminal Justice." This Act did not receive the Royal Assent, and as in furtherance of the views of Her Majesty's Government, with regard to the desirability of having a well-arranged criminal code in each Colony, the law officers in Barbados have undertaken the task of adapting the consolidated statutes of 1861 to the circumstances of that Island, all further local legislation upon this subject was postponed at the suggestion of the Governor-in-Chief until the nature of the bills passed in Barbados could be promulgated in this Colony.
7. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of St. Vincent and its Dependencies." This very important Act proposes a radical change in the form of Government of the Colony to that which has been in existence since the year 1763, subsequent to which period the Government has consisted of the Governor, a Legislative Council of 12 members, and a House of Assembly of 19 members returned by the people. In the present Act the existing Legislative Council and House of Assembly are abolished, and in lieu thereof provision is made for the establishment of a single Legislative Chamber, composed of 13 members, 7 to be elected by the people, 3 to be ex-officio members, and 3 to be nominated by the Governor, the Speaker being elected by the House. The principle of this measure having been objected to by Her Majesty's Government on the grounds that a predominance of the elective element existed, an amended bill was passed in the early portion of the present year, reducing the number of the Chamber to 12, 6 to be nominated and 6 to be elected, and vesting in the Governor the appointment of the President, with a double or casting vote.

In passing a measure of this nature the Legislature of St. Vincent has but followed the example of other Colonies in the West Indies, to whom experience had shown that the machinery hitherto employed was of too complicated and cumbrous a description to be adapted to the exigencies of the present state of affairs in these Islands. The difficulty experienced in the choice of suitable persons to hold seats in the Legislative Council, arising from the want of resident landed proprietors and persons of independence and ability, was making itself daily more felt. The number of those qualified and willing to accept a seat in the House of Assembly was also circumscribed. The material of the House was accordingly deteriorated, and, in many instances, questions were determined not in accordance with the general views of the members, but with those of a party limited in numbers, but from their influence and superior intelligence in a position to bias the opinions of those members incapable of judging for themselves. The consequence of this was that a one-sided policy has in many instances prevailed to the neglect of the interests of the community at large. A disinclination was shown to anything in the shape of progressive improvement, a spirit of reluctance was apparent on more than one occasion on the part of the Assembly to meet at all, and as a rule much apathy and indifference characterized the routine of their proceedings. The injurious effects consequent upon a system of this nature at length became so patent even to the members of the House of Assembly themselves, that a resolution was passed by that branch to the effect that, in their opinion, it was advisable that the form of government in this Colony should be assimilated to that of a Crown colony, but that previously to discussing the question a dissolution of the House should take place. The House was accordingly dissolved, but at the elections the popular feeling ran so strongly against the entire abandonment of the representative element that members, with a view to secure

their election, were forced to pledge themselves at the hustings to discountenance any measure having for its object the conversion of this Colony into a Crown colony. Hence the adoption of the measure as originally passed, and which was considered to be an equitable medium between the representative system and the form of Government in existence in Crown colonies. There is one feature in the case to which particular attention is due, viz., that the proposal of a change in the local constitution emanated solely from the popular branch, and that during no part of the discussion consequent thereon was any Government influence brought to bear.

8. "An Act to repeal sundry Acts, and to amend the Law relating to the Election "of Representatives to serve in the Legislative Assembly." This Act is supplementary to the one above reported upon, and provides for the election of members to serve in the single Chamber, and contains the following novel features:—

1. The Island with its dependencies is formed into one constituency.
2. The town of Kingstown is to be the only place of election.
3. The system of voting papers is established.

These provisions were introduced with the view of simplifying the system, which was considered too elaborate, regard being had to the limited number of registered voters in the rural districts, and the very small proportion of that number that avail themselves of their electoral privileges. As, however, Her Majesty's Government took exception to these changes, an amended Bill was passed in which the system hitherto in force is reverted to, the changes in the limits of the electoral districts being made to suit the reduction in the number of members to be returned under the Constitution Act, 1867.

9. "An Act to lay further Tonnage Dues on Vessels arriving in this Government." This Act makes permanent the imposition of an additional tonnage duty of 4*d.* per ton on vessels arriving in the Colony, which duty has been hitherto collected under the provisions of enactments passed only with limited duration.
10. "An Act to provide for the appropriation of the casual Revenue of the Crown "arising from escheated Estates." This Act provides that all casual revenues of the Crown, except droits of the Crown and of the Admiralty which may be paid into the Treasury, shall be at the disposal of the Legislature. It provides also how claimants may proceed to establish their claims to any such monies after payment into the Treasury, and that when any claim is proved the amount thereof shall be repaid under the order of the Governor in Council out of the general revenue.
11. "An Act to impose certain Taxes to be appropriated to the Support of a "Detachment of Her Majesty's Troops." The Act, in my opinion hardly secondary in importance, as far as the future prosperity of the Colony goes, to that which proposes so marked a change in the form of its government, is intended to raise a sum for the maintenance of a company of Her Majesty's European troops in this Colony by the imposition of a tax on lands cultivated and in pasture, on houses, on incomes, and of 1 per cent. ad valorem on the total amount of the imports of the Colony. The amount estimated to be raised under the Act is 4,000*l.* per annum, being the sum required by the Imperial Government for the maintenance of a company of white troops.

The moral effect caused by the presence of a small detachment of white troops towards the establishment of a feeling of security in the minds of the respectable proportion of the community can be but slightly appreciated in a country where a diversity of race does not exist. The apprehensions entertained in the year 1854, when the troops were removed from the Island, and the reasons for such apprehensions, are ably set forth in the Despatches of the then Lieutenant-Governor Sir R. MacDonnell. That a cause existed for such a feeling of distrust was subsequently apparent on several occasions, when a determined resistance to the law was shown by the lower orders, ebullitions of popular excitement which culminated in the very serious riots that took place in September 1862. It is true our internal resources are in a better position than probably they ever were for the preservation of the peace. We have a tolerably efficient police force of 50 men, and a corps of militia and volunteers numbering 350. But it must be borne in mind how much better suited a force of the latter sort is to act as auxiliaries to regular troops than as an independent body. Neither must the fact be lost sight of that a majority of the material of which this force is composed is necessarily taken from the very class likely to be influenced by local prejudices. As a consequence

to the feeling of personal security produced by the presence of a body of troops there can be little doubt that the value of property will be greatly enhanced, additional capital will probably be employed, and a possibility exists that further inducements may arise to attract the residence of landed proprietors, without which I see little hope of any decided progress in the social or moral condition of the lower orders; and, though perhaps it may be thought of comparatively minor moment, the addition to the local society derived from the presence of even the limited number of officers attached to a single company of troops will be sensibly felt. That these advantages will be acquired at a considerable cost to the Colony may be estimated from the fact that a sum equal to one-fifth of the entire previous revenue has been appropriated for the purpose, but I am by no means prepared to admit that the sacrifice is disproportionate to the value of the object to be attained.

Political Franchise.

The number of registered voters at the last election was only 474 out of a population of 32,000, and of this number only 250 availed themselves of their electoral privileges. This circumstance will indicate how little interest is taken by the mass of the people in the choice of their representatives, more particularly where this apathy showed itself on the occasion of a general election consequent upon a dissolution of the Legislature for the express purpose of obtaining the views of the community at large upon a question of so much importance as a radical change in the form of government of the Colony. A reference to the Blue Book of 1865 will show that the number of registered voters at the date of the general election held in the year 1862 was 1,386, of which 1,045 came to the poll. If a comparison, therefore, is drawn between 1862 and 1866, it will appear that in the former year there were nearly three times as many registered electors and four times as many voters.

Councils and Assemblies.

The only addition to the Executive Council was Mr. Edward J. Cloke, who was appointed to the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. John J. Hughes. The latter gentleman was the senior member of the Executive Council, and by virtue of that office succeeded to the administration of the government on various occasions during the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor. Mr. Hughes also held a high position in the mercantile community, and his loss has been much felt.

The Rev. H. W. Laborde, Rural Dean, and Mr. Robert Sutherland, Stipendiary Magistrate, were appointed to the Legislative Council in place of Mr. John Audain and Mr. J. J. Hughes, deceased.

Civil Establishment.

There was no addition to the Civil Establishment. Major Charles Creagh succeeded Mr. A. Hobson as Inspector-General of Police. Dr. Arnott was appointed Surgeon of the gaol vice Dr. Sprott, whose leave of absence had expired; and Mr. J. S. Wall as Gaoler vice Mr. Atkins, deceased.

Advancing years and debilitated health compelled Mr. Chief Justice Sharpe to resign his appointment on the 31st of July, after a period of 20 years' service. The handsome provision made by the Legislature, in the shape of a retiring allowance of 500*l.* per annum, sufficiently indicates the estimation in which Mr. Sharpe was held by the community as a functionary of the highest class. Temporary provision was made for the performance of the Chief Justice's duties during the interval that elapsed before the nomination of his successor by the appointment of Mr. J. Hampden King, one of the Justices of the Court of Appeal in Barbados.

Population.

I place very little reliance on the accuracy of these returns, which, however, profess only to show the number of baptisms, marriages, and burials. The Report of the Registrar-General is appended,* from which it appears that the total number of births in the year was 1,594, and of deaths 1,059, against 1,456 births and 1,296 deaths in the previous year, showing an increase in births of 138 and a decrease in deaths of 237, or an actual gain in favour of 1866 of 375. The proportion of illegitimate births during the year was 62½ per cent., being in excess of that of the previous year. The Registrar states his inability, from the lack of necessary information in the returns, to report upon the proportion contributed by this unfortunate class towards the general mortality among infants.

* Not printed.

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

These returns do not show any result from the working of the Savings' Bank Act, the provisions of which only came into force at the commencement of the present year.

There are 10 Friendly Societies, of which four are in connexion with the Established Church, three with the Wesleyan persuasion, one with the Roman Catholic Church, and two unconnected with any religious denomination. The total number of members belonging to these societies is 1,238.

The total number of immigrants under indenture were 476 Coolies, 66 Portuguese, and 83 Africans. On the 16th June 256 Madras Coolies passed from indenture, having served five years, being the first instance where the indentures of labourers of this class have expired. The system still continues to work admirably, employers and employed being mutually satisfied, and the sanitary state of the immigrants favourable. Indeed, it is to the introduction of the system that I ascribe the present flourishing state of the agricultural interests. In acknowledging the receipt of the Immigration Agent's Report up to the 31st December, the Secretary of State was pleased to say:—"I have noticed with pleasure the satisfactory condition of the immigrants in St. Vincent indicated by this report."

Ecclesiastical.

The Colony, for ecclesiastical purposes, is divided into four parishes, with an area of 201 square miles. There is a rector to each parish, and a perpetual curate to the district of St. Paul in the parish of St. George, and assistant curates to the parishes of St. George and Charlotte. The parish church of Kingstown will contain 1,250 persons, 800 being the average attendance on Sundays. There are eight chapels connected with the Established Church, three Roman Catholic, and 11 Wesleyan. There has been no addition to the establishment since the last return.

Education.

The total number of schools in connexion with the Church of England were 26, and the number of scholars 1,560, being an increase of two in the number of schools, and of 194 in the number of scholars. The schools in connexion with the Wesleyan body were twelve, being the same number as returned in the previous year, but there is an increase of 220 scholars. There are three schools in connexion with the Roman Catholic Church with an attendance of 136 scholars, showing an increase of 37 over the previous year.

The cause of education in the Colony is aided by a grant of 700*l.* from the Public Funds, distributed among the several denominations as follows, viz. :—

	£
Church of England	425
Wesleyan	200
Roman Catholic	75
	700

The mode of instruction adopted in all the schools, with the exception of the Kingstown Grammar School, is purely elementary. At the Kingstown Grammar School, which is under the superintendence of a clergyman of the Church of England, the higher branches of education, including classics and mathematics, form the subject of instruction. Among the lower orders the main cause of a want of progress is the impossibility of ensuring continuous attendance on the part of children arrived at a certain age, as, from the little weight attached by their parents to the advantages of education, the children are, as soon as their services become remunerative, put to labour in the field to the neglect of all other considerations.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of the imports for the year was 158,153*l.*, being an increase of 37,009*l.* over the imports of the previous year. The value of imports from Great Britain was 61,499*l.* against 35,817*l.*, showing an increase of 25,682*l.*; from British Colonies, 92,699*l.* against 78,247*l.*, showing an increase of 14,452*l.*; from foreign ports, 3,959*l.* against 7,080*l.*, being a decrease of 3,121*l.* I attribute the cause of the marked increase in the value of the imports from Great Britain partly to the non-arrival until the commencement of the following year of some vessels expected at the close of the year 1865, and to the necessity that existed for replacing stock destroyed in the fire which took place in the month of October. To the latter cause alone must be ascribed the reason for the increase in the imports from the British Colonies.

The total value of exports for the year was 194,173*l.* against 147,852*l.* in the previous year, being an increase of 46,321*l.*, the exports to the United Kingdom alone showing an increase of 42,889*l.*; a reference to the return of exports clearly indicates the reasons for this increase.

The amount of sugar exported in 1866 was 10,985 hogsheads of 17 cwt. each, being an increase of 2,529 hogsheads over the previous year; of rum, 1,796 puncheons of 90 gallons against 1,794 in 1865; of molasses, 1,063 puncheons of 90 gallons against 916, showing an increase of 147 puncheons; of arrowroot, 14,645 barrels of 180 lbs. against 7,433 barrels, showing an increase of 7,212 barrels; of cocoa, 26,640 lbs. against 17,440 lbs., showing an increase of 9,200 lbs.; of cotton, 82,600 lbs. against 117,100 lbs., being a decrease of 34,500 lbs. It will be seen, therefore, that with the exception of the latter article there has been an increase under every head of exports. The proportionate increase in sugar is very considerable, being over a third of the average of the quantity exported for several consecutive years. The crop of arrowroot, which ranks in importance next to sugar, has very nearly doubled itself. Notwithstanding the depreciated value of this article in the English market considerably more attention is paid to its cultivation, in most instances at a loss to the small growers, who, in devoting their time to this means of earning a livelihood, entirely overlook the amount that should be deducted from the gross receipts to compensate for the value of their labour. An extraordinary propitious season contributed largely towards the increase of the sugar crop, but improvements in the style of culture and increased facilities in procuring labour, chiefly owing to the introduction of the Coolie immigrants, had no small share in producing this favourable result.

Annexed is a comparative statement of the sugar crop for the past five years:—

	Hhds.
1862 - - - - -	8,410
1863 - - - - -	8,746
1864 - - - - -	8,168
1865 - - - - -	8,456
1866 - - - - -	10,985

Gaols and Prisoners.

There were 14 convictions for offences against the person and property during the year, of which four were for common assault, thus reducing the number of those convicted of more heinous crimes to 10, which contrasts favourably with the return of the previous year, which showed a total of 18. The convictions by the magistrates amounted to 367, of which 345 were of black and coloured persons, and 22 white, being a slight increase over the commitments for similar offences in the previous year. It is with much regret that I have to revert to the necessity that arose for carrying out the extreme sentence of the law in the case of Mary James, who was found guilty of the murder of her child under circumstances of a revolting nature.

General.

A reference to the statistical returns, commented upon in their proper place, shows the condition of the Colony to be satisfactory in a financial and commercial point of view. The revenue exceeded that of the last 10 years, and the export of sugar showed an increase of more than one-third of the average crop. Measures were passed for an entire change in the form of government of the Colony, and for the maintenance therein of a detachment of white troops. Notwithstanding the prevalence in the Island of St. Thomas simultaneously of small pox, yellow fever, and cholera, this Colony was entirely free from disease of a serious character. It was found necessary, however, to establish a rigid quarantine against St. Thomas. The only event of an extraordinary nature was a fire which occurred on the night of the 29th October, and was, I regret to say, attended with disastrous consequences, principally to the mercantile community, property to the extent of 40,000*l.* having been consumed. A Commission appointed by me to inquire into the circumstances connected with this fire reported its origin as purely accidental. The losses to the public were considerable; the entire range of buildings in the ordnance yard, which were handed over to the Civil Government in 1854 upon the withdrawal of the troops, were, with the exception of one of the Police Barracks and a gun shed, consumed. These buildings comprised a Police Barrack, Armoury, Bonding Store, and the Offices of the Postmaster, Auditor, and Treasurer. Temporary accommodation has been provided for these officers, but, with the exception of the Police Barrack, no further attempt has been made towards the restoration of these

ST. VINCENT. buildings, though the subject was forcibly brought to the notice of the Legislature in my opening speech at the commencement of the following session. Equal disregard was paid to the necessity which, as I urgently pleaded, existed for adopting measures for the introduction of a proper supply of water in the town of Kingstown, and for providing fire engines and apparatus. The Colony had never suffered from a similar calamity, and to this immunity must, I presume, be ascribed the entire absence of means for meeting the emergency when it arose. A considerable portion of the mercantile part of the town has been already rebuilt.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BERKELEY.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

GRENADA.

GRENADA.

No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 417.)

MY LORD DUKE, Windward Islands, Barbados, July 20, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of Grenada for the year 1866, together with a report from the Administrator on the condition and prospects of the Island.

Considerable vigour has been manifested in both the Legislative and Executive departments of Grenada during the past year, and several of the local establishments have been put on a sounder and more efficient footing, and withal the finances of the Colony have been maintained in a satisfactory state. But your Grace will regret to perceive, what has been very evident to me for some time, that Grenada is fast passing out of the category of sugar-producing colonies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES WALKER.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 60.)

SIR, Government House, Grenada, June 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the Blue Book of Grenada for the year 1866, together with my report thereon.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The returns usually inserted in the Grenada Blue Book merely show the receipts and payments at the Treasury during the year, and do not therefore exhibit a complete statement of the financial condition of the Colony. In these returns the receipts and payments made on account of the service of the previous year are blended with and made to appear as forming a part of the settled revenue and expenditure of the year in which the amounts have been actually collected or expended, and no reference whatever is made to the amount of uncollected revenue at the close of the year, or to the claims outstanding against the Treasury at that period. I have therefore appended to the Blue Book a financial statement in which the monetary transactions at the Treasury during the year under notice are fully set out, and which at the same time presents an accurate account of the proper revenue and expenditure of the year.

2. From the financial returns given in the Blue Book it would be inferred that there was a surplus revenue of 4,950*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* from 1865 available for the service of 1866. The

actual balance was, however, but 3,675*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*, as will appear by the subjoined statement. GRENADA.

	£	s.	d.
Balance on hand, December 31, 1865 - - - - -	4,950	6	2
Add revenue raised for 1865, but collected in 1866 - - - - -	1,306	5	5
	6,256	11	7
Deduct outstanding claims of 1865 paid in 1866 - - - - -	2,580	18	8
	3,675	12	11
3. The revenue raised in 1866 was - - - - -	21,464	12	10
The total expenditure amounted to - - - - -	21,517	14	1
Showing an excess of expenditure over the amount raised for the year of - - - - -	53	1	3
The surplus revenue from the preceding years was, as above stated,	3,675	12	11
Leaving a balance available for 1867 of - - - - -	3,622	11	8
The balance is, however, given in the Blue Book at - - - - -	4,886	4	9
The difference is thus explained :—			
Add revenue raised for 1866, but collected in 1867 - - - - -	1,631	2	3
	6,517	7	0
Deduct outstanding claims of 1866 paid in 1867 - - - - -	2,894	15	4
Surplus revenue - - - - -	3,622	11	8

4. A reduction of 4*d.* per gallon on rum consumed in the Colony was effected in 1866. The loss to the revenue occasioned by this reduction, estimated at 1,000*l.*, was met by the imposition of the following additional taxes, viz.,—

Five per cent. on the amount of the import duty.

An additional duty of 6*d.* per gallon on the importation of gin.

An increase of 2*d.* per acre on the first 100 acres of land.

5. The expenditure was about 2,000*l.* in excess of that of 1865, the principal increase being under the following heads :—

Civil Establishment.—Increase to the salaries of certain public officers.

Judicial Establishment.—Allowance to jurors and witnesses attending courts on trial of criminal cases.

Additional Grants.—For repairs of common gaol, for repairs of public roads, and for the Colony Hospital.

6. The principal permanent sources of revenue are the import and tonnage duties, fees of office, excise duty on rum, licences to sell spirits, wine, and malt. The fixed revenue is supplemented by rates and taxes granted in the annual money bill. The imposts voted for 1866 were, assessments on annual valued rental of houses, 1½ per cent. in towns, 3 per cent. in parishes, and 3*s.* where the rental does not amount to 10*l.*; tax on carts and carriages, 10*s.* per annum; tax on saddle horses, 20*s.*, mules and asses, 5*s.*; licence to auctioneers, 20*l.* per annum, to pedlars, 80*s.* per annum; licence to carry fire-arms, 10*s.* Five per centum on amount of import duties. Land tax; viz.,—

For the first acre, and for every acre from 1 to 50, per acre -	8 <i>d.</i>
From 50 to 100 - - - - -	6 <i>d.</i>
From 100 and upwards - - - - -	1 <i>d.</i>

7. The following taxes are raised for special purposes, and the proceeds are kept separate from the general funds of the Colony; viz.,—

Export Duty for Immigration Purposes:—

Every hogshead of sugar, 1*s.* 8*d.*; every puncheon of rum, 8*d.*; of molasses, 5*d.*; every 100 lbs. of cocoa, 2*d.*; and one third of the duty received on rum consumed in the Island.

GRENADA.

Tonnage Dues under Water Act No. 255 :—

Harbour of St. George	-	-	-	per ton	3d.
Outports	-	-	-	„	2d.

Tonnage Dues under Harbour Act :—

Every vessel clearing, 1½d. per ton.

Grenville Water Act :—

Ships, 3d. per ton; droghers, 10s. per annum. 3 per cent. on valued rental of all houses and stores amounting to 10l., and 4s. each on all under 10l. 2 per cent. on valued rental of estates stores in Grenville.

Grenville Harbour Act :—

Tax on produce shipped :—Every hogshead sugar, 1s. 2d.; every puncheon of rum or molasses, tierce of sugar, coffee, or cocoa, 7d.; bale of cotton, 9d.; bag of coffee, cotton, or cocoa, 2d.; every hogshead of rum, lime juice, or shrub, 3½d.

(These sums to be paid by both shipper and ship.)

Street Taxes :—

Three per cent. on the annual valued rental of houses in the town of St. George and Charlotte Town, and 2 per cent. in towns of St. Patrick, Grenville, and Hillsborough in Carriacou.

8. The total revenue of the Colony for 1866, inclusive of the special funds, was	£	s.	d.
	25,540	1	9
The total expenditure, also inclusive of special funds, was	26,892	16	9
Excess of expenditure	1,352	15	0

The available balance to credit of the Colony on 31st December, was	£	s.	d.
	14,395	2	7

9. The taxation of the Colony for the ordinary purpose of the revenue is at the rate of 12s. 4d. per head; with the special revenues the rate is about 14s. 7d.

10. The cost of collection is 2,000l., or at the rate of 7¾ per cent. on the revenue.

11. The receipts under the import duty average about 9,000l. per annum. About 39 per cent. of this amount is levied on articles of food, as will be seen by the following return :—

ARTICLES.	DUTY.	ARTICLES.	DUTY.
	£		£
Flour - - -	1,373	Butter - - -	255
Fish, dried, &c. -	514	Sugar, refined -	205
Corn meal - - -	105	Bread and biscuit -	33
Beef, pork, &c. -	433	Cheese - - -	28
Rice - - -	495		521
Lard - - -	57		2,977
	2,977		3,498

The aggregate value of the foregoing articles is 35,000l., showing the duty to be nearly 10 per cent. ad valorem. The duty on rice is 2s. per 100 lbs., or at the rate of 14 per cent. on its value, and the duty on corn meal is 2s. per barrel, equal to 10 per cent. on the value. The duty on wine, spirits, and malt realized 572l., at the rate of 13½ per cent., the total value being returned at 4,219l. Tobacco pays but 1½d. per lb. The quantity imported in 1866 was over 17 tons; the duty amounted to 241l. Silks, cottons, linens, ironmongery, estates stores, and other articles not enumerated in the schedule of duties pay a moderate tax of 5 per cent. ad valorem.

12. A reduction of the duty on rice and on corn meal, the first-named article forming the principal food of the Indian immigrants, and the latter being extensively used by the native labourers during a scarcity of ground provisions, would be highly desirable.

The effect of these reductions on the revenue would be more than compensated by an additional impost on tobacco, and by the re-adjustment of the duties on wines, spirits, and malt.

GRENADA.

Local Revenues and Special Funds.

13. The following table will exhibit the receipts and disbursements under the above head:—

	Balance from 1865.	Receipts received in 1866.	Total.	Expenditure in 1866.	On hand 31st December 1866.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Streets - -	255 9 11	224 2 5	479 12 4	251 18 3	227 14 1
Water Fund - -	1,002 0 1	182 9 0	1,184 9 1	75 4 5	1,109 4 8
Harbour Fund - -	274 9 6	88 3 4	362 12 10	—	362 12 10
Rents of Buildings - -	80 5 2	163 0 5	243 5 7	151 17 2	91 8 5
Immigration - -	8,130 2 10	3,673 15 9	11,803 18 7	4,507 11 9	7,296 6 10
Post Office - -	31 14 11	351 15 0	383 9 11	342 16 1	40 13 10
	9,774 2 5	4,683 5 11	14,457 8 4	5,329 7 8	9,128 0 8
Church Lands - -	116 0 7	36 17 2	152 17 9	57 10 0	95 7 9

Public Debt.

14. The public debt (incurred for immigration purposes) is 9,000*l.*; this includes a local loan of 2,000*l.*, which will be paid off in June 1867. The loan of 7,000*l.* was contracted in the year 1858. The sum of 350*l.* is annually invested to form a sinking fund for the payment of this debt. The amount invested up to 31st December last was 3,353*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*

Roads and Public Buildings.

15. The superintendence of the repairs of the roads is vested in road commissioners, three being appointed for each parish by the Council and Assembly. Their term of office extends over a period of three years. They are entirely independent of the executive, and cannot be removed by the Governor for neglect of duty or misbehaviour in their office. These commissioners are unpaid, and having their own private avocations to attend to, are not in a position to devote much of their time to the duty of superintending the repairs of the roads.

The entire length of road in this Colony does not exceed 126 miles. The amount spent on the roads for the year 1866 was 2,357*l.* 2*s.* The amount expended during the last five years has been 9,290*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*, or at the rate of 74*l.* per mile; notwithstanding this heavy expenditure, the highways are in a very bad condition. The roads have been much deteriorated since the abolition in the year 1863 of the office of Surveyor of Public Works. The repairs are, with few exceptions, effected under contracts, but there is no responsible person charged with the duty of inspecting and reporting upon the work of the contractor. Macadamization is unknown, the soft mud, taken from the trenches and ditches, is deposited in the centre of the road in lieu of metal, most of the roads are in consequence rendered perfect quagmires, and in many places all but impassable during the rainy season.

16. A sum of 300*l.* was granted by the Money Bill for building a causeway over the River Antoine. The work has not yet been commenced.

17. Considerable damage was occasioned to the public roads and bridges in the parish of St. Patrick by the heavy rains of the 1st December last; two bridges were swept away by the flood, and three sustained great injury. The Assembly requested me to appoint a competent person to superintend the restoration of the bridges and the repair of the roads. I did so, and the work is now nearly completed. The cost of effecting these repairs will be about 1,000*l.*

18. The public buildings are under the charge of a joint Committee of the two Houses.

19. A contract has been taken for the erection of an additional wing to the common gaol.

GRENADA.

20. A sum of 960*l.* was granted for the erection of a parsonage in the parish of St. Andrew. This sum remaining undrawn at the close of the year, has been re-voted in the Money Bill for the year 1867.

21. The whole of the public buildings of the Colony are in a dilapidated condition. The want of a responsible officer to superintend the repairs of the public works is much felt.

Legislation.

22. Thirteen Acts were passed during the year; several of them are of great importance, such as the following, viz. :—

The Act for carrying into execution in Grenada the West Indian Incumbered Estates Act.

The Act for settling on a permanent basis the Salaries of the Public Officers of the Colony.

The Act regulating the carriage of Mails by the French Packets.

The Act for providing for the reception of sick indigent Coolies at the Colony Hospital.

The Act for annexing certain Lands to the Common Gaol.

The amended Police Act.

The Act for authorizing the building of a Parsonage in the Parish of St. Andrew.

The Act for facilitating the performance of the duties of Justice of the Peace with regard to summary Convictions and Orders.

23. The remaining five Acts are on the following subjects :—

For repealing the Second Clause of Act No. 346, relating to the duties of Justices of the Peace. This clause dealt with offences committed on the high seas, and was therefore repealed at the instance of Her Majesty's Government.

An Act for amending the Liquor Licence Act.

The usual annual Money Bill.

An Act for granting 200*l.* to the Sufferers by the Hurricane at Turk's Island.

An Act to establish a Scale of Fees for duties performed under the Second Section of the Merchant Shipping Act.

Civil Establishment.

24. The civil establishment of the Colony has, by an Act passed in the month of August last, been placed on a fixed and satisfactory footing. The salaries of the police magistrates, coroners, postmaster, clerks of the magistrates, and of several other public officers, heretofore dependent on annual or triennial bills, have now been permanently fixed.

25. Permanent additions have been made to the official incomes of several of the public officers. The salary of the Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General has been raised from 400*l.* to 450*l.*, and that of the Auditor of Public Accounts from 200*l.* to 300*l.*, and a small increase has been effected in the pay of the district revenue officers, clerks of the magistrates, and of the holders of some minor appointments.

26. An office for the registration of births and deaths has been constituted under the direction of the Colonial Secretary, as Registrar-General; and district registrars have been appointed for the several parishes in the Colony.

27. Three junior clerkships for the offices of the Colonial Secretary, Provost Marshal, and Auditor of Public Accounts have been created.

28. The office of Inspector of Police has been re-established at a salary of 250*l.* per annum, and adequate provision has been made for increasing the strength and efficiency of the force under his command.

The police force consists at present of—

1 inspector.

1 superintending serjeant.

6 serjeants.

39 privates.

47 Total.

It is distributed as follows :—

GRENADA.

	Inspector.	Super-intending Serjeant.	Serjeants.	Privates.	Total.
St. George, head quarters -	1	1	4	20	26
St. David's -	—	—	—	2	2
St. Andrew's -	—	—	1	4	5
St. Patrick's -	—	—	—	5	5
St. Mark's -	—	—	—	2	2
St. John's -	—	—	1	3	4
Island of Carriacou -	—	—	—	3	3
Totals -	1	1	6	39	47

29. Changes of some importance were made during the year in the holders of appointments in the Treasury Department. Mr. Beveridge, the Treasury Accountant of Antigua, was appointed Treasurer of this Colony, and assumed his duties in the month of April. The Chief Clerk having been removed from the public service, his place was filled by Mr. Thomas Bell, a revenue officer. Mr. James Anton, also a revenue officer, was promoted to the office of Postmaster, and Mr. James McDonell and Mr. James Robertson were appointed to the Treasury Department in succession to Messrs. Bell and Anton. The office of Auditor was filled up by the appointment of Mr. A. Gall, but he did not arrive in Grenada until after the close of the year.

Population.

30. The population was estimated in the return for 1865 at 36,955, and in that for 1866 at 35,672. This apparent diminution is not, however, to be accepted as exhibiting an actual decrease in the population, as a reference to the tables will show that there has been an actual increase of 750, viz., 260 by immigration, and 490 by excess of births over deaths. The difference arises from a correction of the population tables since 1861, which the registrar has been able to make from information acquired by the working of the Registration Act. In the absence of other data, the estimate of 36,955 was obtained by adding the number of immigrants introduced into the Colony, and the excess of baptisms over burials since the year 1861, to the population shown by the census taken in that year. It now appears from the returns made to the Registrar-General that the number of burials does not represent much more than one half of the deaths registered during the year. This variance is thus explained by the Registrar-General :—"The large difference between the registered deaths and burials is accounted for by the fact, that although the law calls for a return of the number of burials performed by a minister of religion, it yet authorizes other persons to perform the burial services, but has not made sufficiently effectual provisions for securing a record of such burials by such persons."

31. I append the Registrar-General's report and returns for 1866. The number of births was 1,464, of which 31 were still-born. Assuming the population of the Colony to have been 35,000 on the 1st January 1866, the birth-rate (exclusive of the still-born), would be at the rate of 4.09 per cent., or 1 to every 24.4 of the population. The deaths are registered at 943 (exclusive of the still-born), or at the rate of 2.7 per cent., or 1 to every 37.1 of the population. The marriages were 161, or 1 to every 217 of the population. Of the 1,464 births registered, 931 or nearly 64 per cent. were illegitimate. In the parish of St. Patrick 80 per cent. of the births were illegitimate. Carriacou is the only district in the Colony in which the legitimate births are in excess of the illegitimate, but even at that place the illegitimate births are in the proportion of 45 per cent.

Immigration.

32. Two hundred and sixty Indian immigrants were introduced into the Colony during the year. The total number of Indian immigrants in the Colony is 1,858, namely :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under Indenture -	887	280	1,167
Un-indentured -	414	277	691
Totals -	1,301	557	1,858

GRENADA.

Eight immigrants who had acquired their certificates of industrial residence left the Colony during the year. There has been a natural decrease of 34 in the coolie population, the deaths being 84 and the births 50.

Religion.

33. About 30 per cent. of the population belong to the Established Church, 60 to the Roman Catholic, 5·04 to the Wesleyans, and about 0·8 to the Church of Scotland. Hindoos and Mahomedans are in the proportion of 2·05, and the not described are about 1·3 per cent.

34. Liberal provision is made by the Legislature for the support of the Established Church.

The Island is divided into five benefices, viz. :—

1. *Town and Parish of St. George.*—One church, one chapel, and one licensed place of worship, served by the rector and a curate.

Average attendance at church and chapels 341. The salary of the rector of this parish has been increased to 350*l.* per annum, and an allowance has been made for another curate.

2. *St. John and St. Mark.*—Two churches served by the rector. Average attendance 295.

3. *St. Patrick.*—One church served by the rector. Average attendance 180.

4. *St. Andrew and St. David.*—Two churches and one chapel, served by the rector and a curate. Average attendance at churches and chapels 395.

5. *Carriacou.*—One church served by the rector. Average attendance 400.

The total attendance at churches and chapels was 1,611. The total cost of the Church establishment is 2,206*l.*

35. An allowance of 264*l.* per annum, with 30*l.* for house rent and 20*l.* for a precentor, is made to the minister of the Church of Scotland. He has charge of two chapels; one in the town of St. George, the average attendance at which is about 80; the other in the parish of St. Patrick, but no service was, I believe, performed at the latter place of worship during the year 1866.

36. There are eight churches and chapels, and five priests belonging to the Church of Rome. The average attendance is 3,790.

37. The Wesleyans have five chapels, which are served by one minister. The average attendance is 720.

38. No provision is made by the Legislature for the maintenance of the Roman Catholic clergy or the Wesleyan minister. Grants are, however, made from time to time for the repairs of the churches, chapels, and schoolrooms belonging to these denominations.

Education.

39. The schools receiving assistance from the annual grant of 1,200*l.* for educational purposes are the following, viz. :—

The Grammar and Normal Schools, under the charge of a head master at 300*l.* per annum, a second master at 100*l.*, and a master for the normal school at 80*l.* per annum. The head master is *ex officio* Inspector of all schools supported wholly or in part from the Education Fund.

The Central School.

Twelve parish schools in connexion with the Church of England.

Seven parish schools in connexion with the Church of Rome.

Five parish schools in connexion with the Wesleyan Mission.

There is no school in connexion with the Presbyterian Church.

An Infant School in the parish of St. George is supported by an annual grant of 15*l.* from the Church Land revenues.

40. The grant was in 1866 distributed thus,—

			£	s.	d.
To Church of England Schools	-	-	270	0	0
„ Roman Catholic	„	-	210	0	0
„ Wesleyan	„	-	140	0	0
„ Grammar and Normal	„	-	562	10	0
			£1,182	10	0

41. At the request of the House of Assembly a Commission was appointed in the month of June 1866 to inquire into the state of the Grammar and Normal Schools, and the working of the educational system of the Colony. A copy of the report presented by the Commissioners is annexed.*

42. The Grammar and Normal Schools were established by a local Act in 1860, and after having been closed from 1862 were reopened in 1865. The number of scholars attending on its re-establishment was upwards of 30, in December 1866 it had fallen as low as 7. The Commissioners reported that they found "it difficult to arrive at the cause or causes for the decrease, particularly as the examiners to whom allusion has already been made, report to your Honour that they have no hesitation in expressing their opinion that the school is well and thoroughly taught. The evidence, too, which the Commissioners have taken from parents whose children are or were at the school is favourable to it, and no complaints from any quarter have reached them. The Commissioners conclude, therefore, that the paucity of pupils is occasioned partly from the school fees being higher than most persons in this community are able to pay, and partly from the absence of accommodation for boarders." It was suggested by the Commissioners that a lower scale of fees should be fixed, and that arrangements should be made for the reception of boarders, in order that the school shall be a boarding school as well as a day school, and thus extend its advantages, which are now confined to the town of St. George, to the country generally. The recommendation of the Commissioners with regard to the reduction of the terms has been carried out, and a new scale has been established.

The former and the present rates are as follows :—

Present Scale.			Former Scale.		
		Per Annum. £ s. d.			Per Annum. £ s. d.
For English	- - -	2 10 0	For English	- - -	4 0 0
„ Mathematics	- - - each	1 5 0 extra.	English, Classics, or Mathe-	- - - }	6 0 0
„ Greek			matics		
„ Latin			English, Classics, and Mathe-	- - - }	8 0 0
			matics	- - - }	

The masters of the Grammar School are not disposed to take boarders, and the Board of Education have not been successful in their endeavours to establish a licensed boarding house in connexion with the school. I may add that an increase in the number of pupils has attended the reduction of the rates. The school at the present date numbers 20 boys.

42. The Central School established in 1826, under the charge of the Society for the Education of the Poor, ranks next in importance after the Grammar School. It was formerly supported by voluntary subscriptions and donations, and annual grant of 80% per annum from the Colonial Revenue. On the opening of the Normal School the Government grant was reduced to 60%. No subscriptions or donations have been received for many years past, and the school is now supported from rents received from certain premises belonging to the Society and from the Government grant. The school is well conducted, and is directed by a competent master.

43. From the remarks of the Commissioners on the subject of the Parish Schools, it must be inferred that the mass of the labouring class have not yet learnt to appreciate sufficiently the importance of education, and in consequence do not take advantage of the opportunities which the local Government has afforded them for the moral and religious training of their children by the establishment of 27 schools in the Colony.

The Commissioners observe, "at present children are kept for weeks from school, when their parents require their services either at home or in their gardens. In many instances it seems to be thought a favour to the teacher to send the children to school. Often when the school fee is demanded, the child will not return for a considerable period." And again, "there are throughout the country, and especially on plantations and villages, hundreds of children to be seen in a state almost, if not entirely, of

* Not printed.

GRENADA.

"nudity, and growing up without attending any school." The amount of fees collected in the schools receiving aid from the Board of Education was only 199*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* for the year 1866, or at the rate of 2*s.* 10*d.* for each pupil. These schools may therefore be considered as being almost entirely supported by the Government. The increase of the salaries of the masters of the Parish Schools, so as to ensure the services of a more efficient class of teachers, is strongly recommended in the report; but this and the other important suggestions made in it cannot be adopted with the means at the disposal of the Board of Education, and it is evidently hopeless to expect any pecuniary assistance towards the maintenance of the schools from the parents of the children. The few labourers who send their children to school will not pay more than a merely nominal sum for their education, and even that they pay grudgingly. I fear that no scheme for the education of the children of the working class will have any reasonable prospect of success in Grenada, unless the attendance at school of children between certain ages is made compulsory, and a special rate levied in the several parishes for the support of the schools.

44. The number of children attending the public schools in 1866 was 1,418, showing a decrease of 36 as compared with the previous year.

There has been a decrease—

In the Grammar School of	-	-	-	-	16
" Normal	-	-	-	-	6
" R. Catholic	-	-	-	-	16
" Wesleyan	-	-	-	-	82
					120
In the Church of England Schools there has been an					
increase of -	-	-	-	-	84
Total decrease	-	-	-	-	36

The number of children in the Colony who ought to be under instruction is not under 8,000. The aggregate attendance at all schools, including the private schools, cannot be set down at more than 1,600. It thus follows that four-fifths of the children in the Colony are being allowed to grow up in ignorance. The Wesleyan is the only denomination which appears to take an interest in Sunday schools; they have five under their charge. In the large and important district containing the town and parish of St. George there is no Sunday school attached to the Church of England. There is, I believe, but one Sunday school in the Colony in connexion with the church. The Roman Catholics have no Sunday schools.

45. An Act was passed in the year 1839 for regulating

Weights and Measures.

This enactment adopts the imperial standard established by the Statute 4th and 5th William IV. cap. 4. It provides that the standard to be procured should be examined by a Committee of both Houses of the Legislature, and then placed in custody of the Clerk of the Market. This was considered by the then Secretary of State for the Colonies as "an assumption on the part of the Legislature of one of the undoubted prerogatives of the Executive Government," and he directed that the Act should be amended in that respect. It has not been amended to this date, but no Order in Council has ever been issued for confirming or disallowing it. No Committee has, however, been appointed by the Houses as contemplated by the Act, and consequently the standards have not been examined. This omission has rendered the law inoperative, and the old weights and measures continue in use.

Imports and Exports.

46. The total value of the imports was 122,255*l.*, showing an increase over 1865 of 8,144*l.*

47. The subjoined return will show the quantity and value of the principal articles imported during the last two years.

Articles.	1865.			1866.		
	Quantity.		Value.	Quantity.		Value.
Bread - - - - - Weight	T.	c. q. lbs.	£ s. d.	T.	c. q. lbs.	£ s. d.
Flour - - - - - Barrels	17	0 1 19	383 7 4	30	5 3 1	721 17 5
		7,625	10,048 9 1		6,868	10,269 9 0
Fish, dried - - - - - Weight	T.	c. q. lbs.		T.	c. q. lbs.	
„ pickled - - - - - Barrels	317	14 1 26	8,234 3 1	415	13 2 24	8,399 5 5
		577	821 16 6		5,916	722 7 0
Cheese - - - - - Weight	T.	c. q. lbs.		T.	c. q. lbs.	
Corn meal - - - - - Barrels	3	11 0 14	262 18 4	4	4 1 20	359 12 9
Meat, salted - - - - - „		270	246 0 2		1,057	1,068 19 0
		1,308	4,846 11 8		959	4,565 12 0
Rice - - - - - Weight	T.	c. q. lbs.		T.	c. q. lbs.	
Tobacco, leaf - - - - - „	185	15 3 9	2,736 11 1	221	3 1 24	3,485 15 1
Butter - - - - - „	23	0 0 23	1,762 11 11	17	5 2 16	1,406 13 0
Lard - - - - - „	28	1 2 9	3,030 17 10	28	9 3 11	3,273 19 3
Malt - - - - - Hhds.	12	17 2 19	1,040 7 1	12	14 3 13	986 19 5
„ - - - - - Dozens		130			144	
		3,342	1,772 17 4		3,712	1,968 19 0
Coals - - - - - Weight	T.	c. q. lbs.		T.	c. q. lbs.	
Soap - - - - - „	4,892	0 0 0	2,446 0 0	5,986	0 0 0	3,324 0 0
Gin - - - - - Gallons	87	14 0 3	2,281 1 1	53	8 2 12	1,418 10 4
Other spirits - - - - - „		5,916	660 6 3		1,104	151 3 0
Wine - - - - - „		1,067	467 13 10		615	277 7 5
Wood, white pine - - - Feet		-	3,264 19 3		-	1,833 2 2
„ pitch pine - - - - - „		667 m.	1,981 1 1		697	3,099 5 8
		2	17 17 1		35	281 7 0

48. The value of the exports is returned at 113,237*l.*, being 4,708*l.* less than in the previous year. This decrease is occasioned by the falling off in the production of cotton, and by the diminished rate at which the value of sugar has been calculated in the returns. There has been a large increase in the quantity of sugar exported as compared with 1865.

49. The direction of trade and the value of imports and exports for the last five years is given below.

IMPORTS.

Countries.	1862.			1863.			1864.			1865.			1866.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom -	47,749	4	1	36,944	1	10	65,832	3	7	56,919	7	2	52,115	0	4
British Colonies -	45,048	19	7	44,222	18	1	43,155	11	4	44,899	18	0	56,164	4	9
United States -	18,222	15	4	8,171	13	4	11,307	8	2	9,917	1	2	12,140	8	4
Other Foreign Countries	1,497	9	2	736	3	5	1,018	16	1	2,374	13	10	1,835	16	11
Totals -	112,518	11	2	90,074	16	8	121,313	19	2	114,111	0	6	122,255	10	4

EXPORTS.

Countries.	1862.			1863.			1864.			1865.			1866.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom -	80,557	4	3	102,701	17	3	140,370	14	3	97,476	18	8	98,687	12	11½
British Colonies -	5,088	12	2	6,058	18	1	4,900	12	7	14,335	18	11	12,569	1	1½
United States -	1,116	5	10	33	15	0	936	19	10	335	5	6	417	8	10
Other Foreign Countries	1,098	14	6	2,282	17	6	7,006	14	10	5,897	7	11	1,563	2	9
Totals -	87,860	16	9	112,477	7	10	153,214	15	6	118,045	11	0	113,237	5	8

GRENADA.

SHIPPING.

50. There are three ports of entry in the Colony, viz., St. George, Grenville, and Hillsborough. The number of vessels entered and cleared for the years 1865 and 1866 stands thus:—

Years.	ENTERED.						CLEARED.					
	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	Ves-sels.	Tons.	Ves-sels.	Tons.	Ves-sels.	Tons.	Ves-sels.	Tons.	Ves-sels.	Tons.	Ves-sels.	Tons.
1865 -	357	15,417	41	1,514	398	16,931	362	12,545	37	3,689	399	16,234
1866 -	323	15,130	25	869	348	15,999	337	13,516	32	906	369	14,422
Increase	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	971	—	—	—	—
Decrease	34	287	16	645	50	932	25	- -	5	2,783	30	1,812

51. Twenty-eight vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 421 tons, are registered at the port of St. George.

Agriculture.

52. The returns of crops, produce acreage under cultivation, &c. given in the Blue Book are, from the imperfect manner in which they are made up, only likely to lead to a false impression on the subject of the agricultural statistics of the Colony. These and certain other returns for facilitating the collection of the assessed taxes are prepared by unpaid and irresponsible commissioners appointed by the Council and Assembly. Reference must therefore be made to the Table of Exports for information respecting the quantity and value of the staple productions of the Colony.

53. The returns appended, showing the number of estates in cultivation, the number abandoned, and the number of plantations in which cocoa cultivation has been substituted for that of the cane, have been carefully compiled by Mr. Mitchell, the Colonial Secretary, and are to be depended upon.

54. There are 140 estates in cultivation, namely 72 in sugar, 56 in cocoa, and 12 in cotton.

55. The quantity of sugar shipped during the last five years is as follows:—

				Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
1862	-	-	-	3,475	11	3	14
1863	-	-	-	5,116	16	0	12
1864	-	-	-	4,492	15	0	15
1865	-	-	-	3,928	0	2	24
1866	-	-	-	5,360	14	1	14

56. The sugar crop of 1866 is in excess of that manufactured in any of the years embraced in the above return, and is considerably over the annual average of the last twenty years. The prospects of the sugar planters are not, however, very encouraging, and there is every reason for apprehending that a large extent of land will shortly be thrown out of cane cultivation. There are no less than 14 sugar plantations at this present moment advertised for sale in the local newspaper; although in Grenada the negro is undoubtedly averse to work continuously in the cane fields, yet the despondency which now prevails among some of the proprietors of sugar plantations cannot be attributed to the want of a sufficient supply of labour; no less than 4,197 immigrants have been introduced into the Colony since the year 1843, and if we are to judge by the refusal of so many of the planters to re-indenture the Coolies located on their estates after the completion of their industrial service of five years, we may conclude that at present the supply of labour is more than equal to the demand. The Colony has now a much greater population than it ever has had since its cession in 1762.

In 1776, with a slave population of 18,923, the Island shipped,—

10,400 tons of sugar, 41 tons of cotton, 815 tons of coffee, 12 tons of indigo, 204 tons of cocoa.

In 1787, with a slave population of 23,906, the shipments were,—

8,772 tons of sugar, 400 tons of coffee and 921 tons of cotton.

In 1828, with a slave population of 24,342, the exports were,—

20,172 hogsheads of sugar.

And in 1831, with a population of 23,604, the exports were,—

11,901 hogsheads.

The cost of making sugar is heavier, I believe, in Grenada than in most of the other British Colonies, and the sugar produced is generally of a very inferior quality and obtains the lowest price in the British market. Grenada it would seem from these circumstances has not kept pace with her sister colonies in the improvements which have of late years been effected in nearly all of them in the former system of cultivation and manufacture. On most of the estates the crop of 1866 was produced at a heavy pecuniary loss to the planter. From some accounts which have been submitted to me I find that on one estate shipping over 100 hogsheads, the cost of making each hogshead was not less than 19*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, whilst the nett proceeds were but 10*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* per hogshead. On another estate, exporting over 160 hogsheads, the cost per hogshead was 17*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, and the nett proceeds 11*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* per hogshead. There are however, I am aware, some few exceptions, principally in the case of plantations managed by resident proprietors, in which the cost of manufacture has been moderate, and where the crop has even at the late low prices afforded a fair profit on the outlay. The small freeholders too find the cultivation of the cane very remunerative. There are some 10 or 12 small sugar works owned by them in the parish of St. George alone, three of which have been recently erected. On these sugar of a good description is made, and which finds a ready sale for island consumption.

57. Twenty-eight sugar estates are conducted on the *Métairie* system, the number in 1865 was but four. Twenty-two sugar plantations have been entirely abandoned during the last 10 years, and on 12 the cultivation of the cocoa plant has been substituted for that of the cane.

58. The rise in the price of cocoa has given an impetus to the cultivation of this article. It is estimated that during the last two or three years an addition of nearly 1,000 acres has been made to the land under cocoa cultivation. The quantity shipped during the last five years is as follows:—

			Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
1862	-	-	575	2	0	8
1863	-	-	522	7	3	0
1864	-	-	477	2	2	4
1865	-	-	577	11	1	13
1866	-	-	631	3	2	21

As the cocoa tree takes five years to arrive at maturity, the results of the recent increase in the cultivation will not be immediately apparent, but will be gradually shown in the annual return of exports.

59. There has been a great falling off in the production of cotton. The cultivation of this article has been almost abandoned in Grenada. The quantity exported was grown chiefly in the dependency of Carriacou.

			Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Cotton exported in	1865	-	182	0	3	5
"	1866	-	87	17	0	15
Decrease	-	-	94	3	2	18

60. Spices are beginning to be more generally cultivated, but they do not yet form an important article of export.

61. Sweet potatoes, yams, bananas, and other vegetables are grown in abundance, they are to be had at moderate prices in the several markets. Large quantities are from time to time shipped to the neighbouring colony of Trinidad. It is not possible to arrive at the quantity produced, this cultivation is almost entirely in the hands of the labouring class, and it is calculated that they have nearly 5,000 acres planted in provisions and vegetables. This speaks well for the energy and industry of the black man of Grenada, and will, with the extent of land he has in cane, cocoa, and spice, sufficiently explain the cause of his gradual withdrawal as a hired labourer from the cane fields.

62. The number of small freeholders is increasing annually, the size of the allotment purchased is generally from two to six acres. The price for ordinary land is from 8*l.* to 12*l.* per acre; land already established in cocoa cannot be purchased for less than between 20*l.* to 30*l.* per acre.

Gaol and Prisoners.

63. A sum of 400*l.* having been voted in the Money Bill for 1866 for the improvement of the gaol, the Committee of Public Buildings at my suggestion entered into a contract for the erection of a new wing of two stories to the building. It is now nearly completed, and contains eight cells of 1,000 cubic feet each, and it has been so con-

GRENADEA. structured as not to interfere with the plan proposed last year for the introduction into the Grenada gaol of the separate system. The main fabric still remains in a dilapidated and ruinous condition; I have lost no opportunity of urging upon the Legislature the necessity of their adopting immediate measures for the repairs and enlargement of the prison. In the year 1865 the House of Assembly approved of the suggestion made by the Commissioners of Goal Inquiry, for the re-construction of the gaol and its conversion into a prison on the separate system, and an address was presented by them, in which they informed me that they had resolved to raise a sum of 2,000*l.* by way of loan for the purpose of accomplishing the repairs and alterations recommended by the Commissioners. The Assembly, however, at a subsequent date refused to pass the bill for raising the loan. The sum of 400*l.* voted in the Money Bill was quite insufficient for the purpose of repairing the old building, and was therefore appropriated for the erection of the eight additional cells, which were much required. The extra accommodation thus afforded, though small, will enable the Provost Marshal to improve his present arrangements for the classification of the prisoners, and will also remedy the evils attendant on the crowding of 14 prisoners together at night in a single ward containing not more than 3,000 cubic feet of space. As the new structure encroaches very considerably on the space allotted for exercise and airing, an Act has been passed for annexing to the gaol a piece of land adjoining to it, known as the Commissariat stables, for the purpose of providing an additional yard for exercise. The Act is at present under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

64. I have already reported on the state of the law relating to insolvent debtors. The rigour of the law is considerably aggravated by the circumstance that owing to the want of a sufficient number of cells debtors are associated with the other prisoners, and instances have occurred in which they have been confined with convicted felons. In December 1866 the four debtors in prison were locked up at night with two untried prisoners, one committed on a charge of murder, the other on a charge of manslaughter. On the delivering by the contractor of the new building to the Provost Marshal the upper storey will be appropriated for the reception of debtors. A bill for the amendment of the law relating to insolvency and imprisonment for debt has been introduced by the Attorney-General in the House of Assembly.

65. Nineteen persons were imprisoned for debt during the year 1865, 17 were paupers who had been arrested for debts under 40*s.* and had to be fed at the expense of the Government.

66. The commitments for the year show a slight increase over the average of the last five years. The fact that the commitments to prison are on an average under 230 per annum, in a population of 35,000, speaks well in favour of the peaceable and orderly conduct of the population.

Commitments.

Years.	Supreme Court.		Magistrates.		Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1862 -	15	1	148	27	201
1863 -	19	3	196	37	255
1864 -	16	1	171	32	220
1865 -	8	5	152	41	206
1866 -	16	1	178	36	231

67. The maximum number of prisoners in confinement at any one time in 1865 was 67; in 1866, 63.

The minimum in 1865 was 33; in 1866, 40.

Cases of sickness in 1865 were 105; in 1866, 60.

Deaths in 1865, 1; in 1866, 1.

The gaol possesses one advantage, that of being situated in a very healthy locality.

Charitable Institutions.—The Colony Hospital.

68. This hospital was founded in the year 1734, whilst the Island was in the possession of the French. It was placed under the charge of a religious order, and was supported by charitable subscriptions and by the profits arising from a sugar plantation in St. George's, which had been purchased with the funds of the institution. After the cession of the island to the English in 1762 the charity was administered by trustees appointed

by the Governor. In 1798 an Act was passed for incorporating the trustees of the Colony Hospital; the Act provides that the Governor, as Chancellor, shall be the sole visitor of the charity. The number of directors is limited to 19. The Chief Justice, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Attorney-General, and the Rector of St. George's are declared by the Act to be ex-officio directors; the other directors are appointed by the Governor. No change has since been made in the constitution of the corporation.

The estate belonging to the hospital has long been out of cultivation and the lands are now let in small lots. The income of the Corporation has been gradually diminishing, and the hospital has of late years been to a great extent supported from the general revenues of the Colony. In 1866 the legislative grant was 800*l.*; the usual vote, however, is but 500*l.* A further sum of 300*l.* per annum has lately been granted to the directors for the care of sick and indigent unindentured Coolies.

The following is a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Corporation for the year 1866.

Receipts.			Disbursements.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1865	11	3 6	Arrears of 1865	242	5 0
Rents collected	157	7 7	Maintenance of inmates	631	4 1½
Fines on renewal of leases	8	2 0	Salaries	192	10 0
Donations from clergy	5	10 2½	Repairs	145	12 6
Government grant	800	0 0	Miscellaneous expenses	10	4 4
Do. for Coolies	300	0 0	Balance on 31st December 1866	72	0 4
Maintenance of sailors and indentured Coolies	11	13 0			
	1,293	16 3½		1,293	16 3½

The total number of patients admitted and treated during the year was 384, inclusive of 277 Coolies. The greatest number under care at one time, including 24 Coolies was 87. The minimum number was 55, including 19 Coolies.

Inmates in hospital on 31st December 1865	-	-	44
Admitted in 1866	-	-	340
			<u>384</u>
Discharged	-	-	280
Died	-	-	36
			<u>316</u>
In hospital 31st December 1866, of whom			
22 were Coolies	-	-	68
			<u>384</u>

69. The military buildings at Richmond Hill, formerly used as officers' quarters and barracks, have been converted into a poor house and lunatic asylum. The paupers and lunatics are lodged in separate portions of the premises and kept apart. The two establishments are, however, under the charge of one superintendent, who is assisted by a matron and an under keeper. Both institutions are kept in a state of great cleanliness and order, and their general management reflects credit on the Board of Guardians and on the officers of the establishment.

70. The poor house is under the direction of a Board of Guardians appointed by the Governor. It is entirely supported by a Government grant of 500*l.* The number of inmates is 27. Seventy-five paupers are on the out-door list, and receive an average allowance of 6*s.* each per month. The total cost of the poor establishment in 1866 was only 465*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, being at the very low rate of 3*d.* per day for each pauper relieved by the Board.

71. The number of lunatics at the asylum on the 31st December was 21.

Number on 31st December 1865	-	-	19
Admitted in 1866	-	-	5
			<u>24</u>
Discharged	-	-	2
Died	-	-	1
			<u>3</u>
			<u>21</u>

GRENADA.

The total expenditure for the care and maintenance of the lunatics was 427*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, being at an average rate of 1*s.* 1*d.* per diem each.

72. The Victoria Almshouse, a private charity, for providing respectable females in reduced circumstances with apartments free of charge. There are 10 inmates.

Medical Attendance.

73. Medical attendance is provided for the poor and destitute in the several parishes in Grenada. At Carriacou the Medical Practitioner and Health Officer receives an annual salary of 300*l.* from the Government, in consideration of which he is bound to vaccinate all children free of charge, and he is also without fee or reward to give medical and surgical advice and assistance to the inhabitants of the Island, and to attend all women in child birth. There is also a dispensary under his direction at which medicines are supplied to the inhabitants at a scale of charges fixed by a Board appointed by the Governor. The salary of the Health Officer and the expense of maintaining the Dispensary are met by a capitation tax on all persons residing in Carriacou at the following annual rates, viz. :—

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Every person not more than 10 years of age	1	0
Do. not less than 10 years and not more than 15 years	2	0
Every person not less than and upwards of 15 years	3	0

Owners or occupiers of lands or tenements of the annual value of 10*l.*, though liable to the payment of the rate, are not entitled to the gratuitous advice or assistance of the Health Officer.

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The sum collected in 1866, on account of the tax, was	330	15	0
For medicines sold in the Dispensary	56	2	7
	386	17	7

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The salaries of the Health Officer, Dispenser, and the cost of keeping up and supplying the Dispensary was	370	16	8

This system of affording medical aid, not only to the poor but to the labouring man also, was established in the Island of Carriacou in 1858 and has worked most satisfactorily. But for this salutary enactment Carriacou would long since have been left without a resident doctor.

74. I am of opinion that the Carriacou medical relief scheme might with considerable advantage be adopted in Grenada. The number of medical men in the Island is quite inadequate to the requirements of the inhabitants. But the value of the entire medical practice is not more than sufficient to support the six medical men already resident in the Island. This is in part owing to the circumstance that the mass of the population do not in any appreciable manner afford any support to the medical profession; they seldom think of sending for a doctor for themselves or their children until when in all probability it is too late for him to be of any use. The health of the population is at the present date good, but it is fearful to contemplate on the disastrous consequences that would, in the event of a sudden outbreak of an epidemic, such as the cholera, ensue from the want of a sufficient number of doctors to attend upon the sick.

Literary Institutions.

75. The Grenada Library, Museum, and Commercial Rooms established by Acts passed in 1847 and 1865. It is under the charge of 10 trustees, viz.,—

The Chief Justice and two Members of Council appointed by the Council.
The Speaker and two Members of Assembly appointed by the House, and
Four persons elected by the subscribers.

The annual subscription to the Library is 6*s.*; to the Commercial Rooms, 6*s.* The Library is open for the admission of the public free of charge, but the right of taking

books from the rooms is limited to subscribers. The Commercial Rooms are open to members only, but strangers may be introduced by any subscriber.

The Library consists of about 1,600 volumes of history, biography, and general literature. It is also supplied with reviews, magazines, and other periodicals.

The London "Times," the "Standard," the "Daily News," "Public Opinion," "Punch," and the "Illustrated News," and several Colonial papers are taken at the Commercial Rooms.

The trustees have evinced a warm interest in the institution, and it is liberally supported by the community in general. The salary of the Librarian is paid by the Government and an annual vote of 50*l.* is made for the purchase of books.

Conclusion.

76. The sanitary condition of the community cannot be said to have been satisfactory during the year. Fever, though not generally of a bad type, prevailed throughout the Island in the months of September and October. That loathsome disease, the yaws, spread extensively among the native labourers and the Indian immigrants, and the latter also suffered very severely from cutaneous diseases. There has, however, been a marked improvement in the condition of the immigrants since the establishment of hospitals on the estates. The assertion that the Coolies will not remain in an hospital, or submit themselves to medical treatment, has been fully disproved by the fact that a large number of indentured and unindentured Coolies have during the year sought for admission into the Colony Hospital, where they have been successfully treated. Doctor Aquart, the resident surgeon of the charity, assures me that he has found them tractable patients.

77. The conduct of the rural population has, as usual, been quiet and orderly, and the public tranquillity has in no way been disturbed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN BAYNES,

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 9.

SIR, Registrar-General's Office, January 30, 1867.
In transmitting to your Honour the first annual general abstract of births, deaths, baptisms, marriages, and burials for the year 1866, made up under the Registration Act, No. 357, which came into operation on the 1st January of that year, I have the honour to offer the following observations:—

The large difference between the registered deaths and burials is accounted for by the fact that although the law calls for a return of the number of burials performed by a minister it yet authorizes other persons to perform the burial services, but has not made sufficiently effectual provision for securing a proper record of such burials by such persons.

The return appended of the classification of causes of death is rather of an abnormal nature, and upon which without medical certificates of the causes of death no reliance can be placed. This arises in many cases in consequence of persons, principally among the labouring population, having an aversion to apply for any medical aid whatever, and even when sought for, not until the disease has so far progressed as to render such aid almost useless, and in others from not taking advantage of the law providing gratuitous aid for their relief. In this respect great improvement is much needed in the law, and the happiest results may be anticipated if the general hygienic principle was adopted in causing the medical practitioner in each district of the Colony, in addition to his present duties, to study and make special reports on the health of his district, describe its prevailing diseases, investigate causes of death, and recommend such sanitary measures as he may consider necessary for the conservation of the public health.

There are several other amendments required to the Registration Act which will be pointed out on some future occasion when all its defects shall have been more fully developed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SAM. MITCHELL,
Registrar-General.

His Honour the Administrator,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

GRENADA.

Office of Registrar-General of Births and Deaths,

GENERAL ABSTRACT of BIRTHS, DEATHS, BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, and BURIALS for the
Year ended 31st December 1866.

Districts.	Total Births.	Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		Total Deaths.	Adults.		Under 15 and over 1 year.		1 year and under.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
St. George -	339	71	58	107	103	286	81	68	27	31	52	27
St. John -	169	33	22	65	49	102	16	17	17	17	18	17
St. Mark -	82	12	7	29	34	46	7	12	3	11	3	10
St. Patrick -	242	30	22	103	87	151	39	27	29	23	18	15
St. Andrew -	252	46	37	84	85	193	61	37	22	29	24	20
St. David -	130	30	28	35	37	98	27	14	9	15	19	14
Carriacou -	250	72	65	53	60	98	24	18	10	14	19	13
Total -	1,464	294	289	476	455	974	255	193	117	140	153	116

(continued.)

Districts.	Coolies included under the foregoing Heads.		Baptisms.			Number of Marriages.	Burials.						Total Number.	
							Infant.			Adult.				
	Births.	Deaths.	M.	F.	Total.		M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.		
St. George -	-	11	13	151	169	320	26	34	27	61	43	36	79	140
St. John -	-	1	2	83	64	147	20	6	7	13	18	12	30	43
St. Mark -	-	1	1	30	36	66	5	2	6	8	4	5	9	17
St. Patrick -	-	15	29	145	107	252	14	28	14	42	32	7	39	81
St. Andrew	-	17	32	143	121	264	13	19	38	57	40	24	64	121
St. David -	-	5	7	81	64	145	18	14	13	27	12	10	22	49
Carriacou -	-	0	0	137	120	257	48	36	32	68	2	4	6	74
Total	-	50	84	770	681	1,451	161	139	137	276	151	98	249	525

CLASSIFICATION of CAUSES of DEATH for the Year ended 31st December 1866.

Causes of Death.	No. of Deaths.	Adults.		Under 15 and over 1 year.		One year and under.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
I. SPECIFIED CAUSES.							
A. General Diseases.							
Zymotic (epidemic, endemic, or contagious) or eruptive fevers.	87	16	10	12	19	17	13
B. Sporadic Diseases.							
Dropsy, cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat.	52	21	10	4	10	5	2
Tubercular diseases	11	3	5	—	3	—	—
Diseases of the brain, spinal marrow, nerves, and senses	57	15	10	7	2	10	13
Diseases of the heart and blood vessels	13	8	4	—	—	—	1
Diseases of the lungs and other organs of respiration	118	48	31	8	10	13	8
Diseases of the stomach, liver, and other organs of digestion.	183	46	17	34	42	27	17
Diseases of the kidneys	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Childbirth, diseases of the womb, &c.	13	—	13	—	—	—	—
Rheumatism, diseases of the bones, joints, &c.	39	15	15	—	4	3	2
Diseases of the skin, cellular tissues, &c.	31	9	6	7	4	2	3
Malformations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth and debility	41	5	4	2	2	15	13
Atrophy	8	4	3	—	—	—	1
Age	79	31	48	—	—	—	—
Sudden	12	8	—	1	1	—	2
Violence, privation, poison, intemperance, &c.	21	5	3	4	2	4	3
Still-born	31	—	—	—	—	19	12
II. CAUSES NOT SPECIFIED	176	19	14	38	41	38	26
Totals	974	255	193	117	140	153	116

DURATION of LIFE of INFANTS One Year old and under whose Deaths are registered in 1866.

GRENADA.

Parishes.	Died within 24 hours.	Within 1 week.	1 month.	From 1 month to 2.	2 months to 3.	3 months to 4.	4 months to 5.	5 months to 6.	6 months to 7.	7 months to 8.	8 months to 9.	9 months to 10.	10 months to 11.	11 months to 12.	Total.
St. George -	8	4	13	5	5	4	4	3	5	2	5	2	1	10	71
St. John -	1	8	2	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	19
St. Mark -	4	2	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	13
St. Patrick -	8	3	1	1	—	5	4	—	2	3	—	2	1	3	33
St. Andrew -	6	3	7	5	5	4	1	3	—	2	4	—	—	4	44
St. David -	4	2	3	—	3	1	—	1	—	1	3	4	1	3	26
Carriacou -	2	3	5	3	3	2	8	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	32
Total -	33	25	32	17	17	17	18	9	8	11	12	12	3	24	238

RETURN showing the estimated POPULATION to 31st December 1866.

Population as per census of 1861 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,900
Immigrants introduced in 1861-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,350
															33,250
Natural increase estimated at 1.25 per cent. per annum for 4 years to 31st December 1865															1,672
															34,922
Immigrants per "Countess of Ripon," January 1866	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	260
Total estimated population	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,182
Natural increase for the year 1866 as by returns of births and deaths (1.40 per cent.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	490
Total estimated population to 31st December 1866	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,672

The births rate for the year 1866 has been (in proportion to the estimated population to 31st December 1865, and the immigrants per "Countess of Ripon"), including still-births, 4.16 per cent., or about 42 births to every 1,000 of the population, and the deaths rate 2.76 per cent., or about 28 deaths to every 1,000 of the population, leaving 1.40 per cent. as the natural increase to the population, or nearly 14 to every 1,000 inhabitants.

The number of legitimate births was at the rate of about 15, and the number of illegitimate births about 26 to every 1,000 of the inhabitants.

The rate of adult deaths was nearly 46 per cent. of the total number of deaths during the year; that of persons under 15 years and over one year 26.38 per cent.; and of infants of one year and under, exclusive of still-births, 24.43 per cent.

The still-births are returned at 31, or at the rate of about 21 per 1,000, or one in every 47 of the total number of births during the year.

The births and deaths rates have been, in proportion to the estimated population to 31st December 1865, including the Coolies per "Countess of Ripon," in every 1,000 inhabitants for each quarter of the year, as follows :—

	Births.	Deaths.
March quarter	8.92	6.93
June "	9.66	5
Sept. "	11.85	7.87
Dec. "	11.17	7.78

The deaths during the year in the district of St. George have been at the rate of 84.1 per cent. to the total number of births registered in the district during the same period; that of St. John, 60.35 per cent.; St. Mark, 56 per cent.; St. Patrick, 62.39 per cent.; St. Andrew, 76.19 per cent.; St. David, 75.38 per cent.; Carriacou, 39.2 per cent.

Of the number of baptisms returned, 11 were adults.

The number of marriages is returned at 161, or at the rate of nearly five to every 1,000 of the estimated population to 31st December 1865.

The number of burials is returned by the several ministers of religion at 525, being at the rate of 53.90 per cent. of the actual number of deaths registered, or 1.85 in every two deaths.

General Register Office, January 1867.

SAMUEL MITCHELL,
Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General.

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

GRENADA.

RETURN of the Number of ESTATES in CULTIVATION for the Periods between the Years
1846, 1856, and 1866.

Years.	In Canes.	In Cocoa.	In Cotton.	Total.
1846	89	52	12	145
1856	77	54	12	143
1866	72	56	12	140

RETURN of ESTATES on which COCOA CULTIVATION has been substituted for that of CANE during
the last Ten Years, and of ESTATES abandoned during that Period.

Parishes.	No. of Estates on which Cocoa substituted for Cane Cultivation.	Estates abandoned.		Total.
		Sugar.	Cocoa.	
St. George	2	9	—	11
St. John	2	2	1	5
St. Mark	5	2	—	7
St. Patrick	1	3	—	4
St. Andrew	2	3	—	5
St. David	—	2	—	2

RETURN of REGISTERED FREEHOLDERS for Ten Years from 1857 to 1866.

Year.	Number.	Year.	Number.
1857	340	1862	528
1858	388	1863	634
1859	408	1864	600
1860	409	1865	548
1861	560	1866	538

N.B.—The above figures represent the number of freeholders who have registered in order to the exercise of the franchise under the Election Act. The number of small freeholders has evidently been increasing within the last 10 years, particularly in the districts of St. George, St. Andrew, and Carriacou. The size of the allotments acquired is generally from two to six acres, and the price per acre varies according to the situation and fertility of the land. Cocoa bearing land would bring a large price, while other land would not be expected to realize more than from 8*l*. to 12*l*. per acre. Land already established in cocoa could not be purchased for less than between 20*l*. and 30*l*. per acre.

TOBAGO.

TOBAGO.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 277.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Windward Islands, Barbados, August 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of Tobago for the year 1866, with the usual Annual Report from the Lieutenant-Governor.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor gives a very good account of financial and agricultural matters for the past year. The Bishop of Guiana, on his late visitation, and other authorities, give by no means a desponding report of the moral and religious condition of the people. So that the Island is at all events not retrograding.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAS. WALKER.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 54.)

SIR, Government House, Tobago, August 15, 1867.
I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book for the year 1866, together with a brief report on it.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The fixed revenue raised during the year was 6,994*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, arrears of revenue 72*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*, incidental revenue 162*l.* 17*s.* 0½*d.*, and receipts in aid of revenue 2,585*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*, making the total revenue for the year 9,814*l.* 6*s.* 10½*d.*, against 8,758*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* revenue of 1865. This increase, amounting to 1,055*l.* 11*s.* 6½*d.*, is due in a measure to a larger trade, owing to the crops having considerably exceeded those of the previous years, but principally to the tax of 40 per cent. on the tariff, which was in operation during part only of 1865.

The expenditure amounted to 10,153*l.* 7*s.* 1½*d.*, exceeding the revenue by 339*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure of 1865 by 92*l.* 4*s.* 5½*d.* In 1865 no payments were made out of the public chest on account of the hurricane loan, the sums remitted having been collected from the private borrowers, whereas in 1866 remittances from the public monies were made amounting to 612*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* This accounts for the expenditure of 1866 being in excess of that of 1865. The arrears of expenditure were reduced from 1,494*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* in 1865 to 981*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* in 1866.

Public Debt.

Of the 20,000*l.* borrowed from the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury for the relief of the sufferers by the hurricane in 1847, 18,466*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* had been repaid at the end of 1866, leaving at that time a balance of 1,533*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* due, the whole of which, according to the terms of the loan, should be paid during the present year. The private borrowers having, with few exceptions, paid the last instalment due by them, the greater portion of the unpaid balance will have to be met by the public treasury.

Public Works, Roads, &c.

No public works of any importance have been undertaken during the year. The public buildings have been kept in repair at an expenditure of 152*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* The roads, under a very inefficient system, have been maintained at a cost of 785*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*

Legislation.

Of ten Acts promulgated during the year the most important were:—

“An Act to raise a Duty on Rum made and consumed within this Island, and to provide efficient Regulations for the Collection thereof.” A similar tax existed some years since, but was found so unproductive, in consequence of the facility with which it could be evaded, that it was abandoned. It is to be hoped that the present Act will be more successful.

An Act to amend “An Act relating to Lands in this Island commonly called the “Three Chains.” This Act was passed to amend the Act passed in 1865 in accordance with the Secretary of State's recommendation, and will secure to persons establishing their claim the undisturbed possession of the portion of land they occupy within the Three Chains.

The other Acts are for the most part the annual Tax Acts.

Executive and Legislative Councils.

One member of the Privy Council, Mr. James Leith, died in December, and Mr. Charles Augustus Berkeley was appointed in his place.

In the Legislative Council three vacancies occurred during the year, through the deaths of Mr. Hugh MacDougall, Mr. George Henry Richardson, and Mr. James Leith. Mr. John McCall and Doctor Patrick Mitchel Mackenzie were appointed to succeed the two former, and the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Leith was filled up in March this year by the appointment of Mr. Charles Isaac Le Plastrier, Provost Marshal General of the Island.

Pensions.

There are no pensions payable out of the revenue of the Island, but there are two annuitants, elderly women, who receive each 3*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* a year, as slaves manumitted in

TOBAGO.

the Colony, the sum of 100% for each having been paid into the public treasury by their owners under an Act of the 19th October 1814.

Imports and Exports.

The imports in 1866 are valued at 57,645*l.*, producing a revenue of 6,112*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, against 47,481*l.* and 5,194*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* in 1865. The estimated value of the exports is 69,872*l.*, being 23,110% in excess of 1865.

Education.

The number of day schools in connexion with the Church of England is ten, with 856 scholars. In 1865 the return showed 815 scholars. The salaries of the teachers are derived partly from Government grant and partly from voluntary contributions and from funds at the disposal of the Bishop of the diocese. There are ten Church of England Sunday schools, with an attendance of 1,103 scholars, male and female.

The Moravians have nine day schools, having on the lists 788 scholars, and an average attendance of 401. There appears to have been some decrease in the number on the lists, which by the return of 1865 was 818. The Sunday school average attendance was in 1865, 467 scholars; in 1866, 513, showing an increase in the latter year of 46.

In 1865 the Wesleyan schools, seven in number, had an attendance of 572 scholars, in 1866 of 536, showing a decrease of 36.

Comparative Statement of Schools.

In connexion with the Church of England:—

	Day Schools.	Attendance.	Sunday Schools.	Attendance.
1865	10	815	10	953
1866	10	856	10	1,103
Increase -		- 41	Increase - 50	

Schools in connexion with the Moravian Church:—

	Day Schools.	Attendance.	Sunday Schools.	Attendance.
1865	9	818	9	467
1866	9	788	9	513
Decrease - - 30			Increase - 46	

Schools in connexion with the Wesleyan Methodist Society:—

—	Day and Sunday Schools.	Attendance.
1865	7	572
1866	7	536
Decrease -		- 36

Agriculture.

There are 64 estates in cultivation in Tobago. The Metayer system prevails very generally, and although I do not think the result can be altogether satisfactory, either to the proprietors or to the Metayers, yet it possesses the advantages of enabling the proprietor to keep his estate in cultivation at less actual outlay, and of raising the Metayer in the social scale by giving him an interest in the land. The export of sugar amounted to 90,295 cwt., or to about 5,825 hhds. and 7 cwt., the hhds. averaging 15½ cwt., a larger quantity than has been exported from Tobago for many years.

Prisons and Prisoners.

TOBAGO.

The number of prisoners committed during the year was 87 males and 28 females, making a total of 115, of whom 10 only were convicted of felony. The greatest number in confinement at any one time of the year was 22 males and 7 females, by which it will be seen that the number of persons committed to the gaol and the largest number in confinement at any one time were less than in 1865.

General.

It is a satisfaction to me to be able to report that Tobago has in most points made progress. No estates have been abandoned; on the contrary, I think cultivation has of late been extended. The financial state of the Colony is undoubtedly sounder than it has been for some time, and it is only justice to the proprietary body, of whom the Council and Assembly are principally composed, to remark that they have not hesitated to tax themselves in order to relieve the Colony from its embarrassments. I may instance the additional $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the assessed value of property above the value of 5*l.*, and the 40 per cent. on the import duties, both of which taxes fall heavily on the planters.

The people continue to be well disposed, and although some murmuring has of late taken place respecting some of the taxes, there has been no serious opposition offered to the collection of them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. KORTRIGHT.

Governor Walker, C.B.,
&c. &c.

ST. LUCIA.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor WALKER, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 374.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Windward Islands, Barbados, April 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of St. Lucia for 1866, together with the usual Annual Report on the condition of the Island.

Financially the past year has been a great improvement on 1865.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAS. WALKER.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 56.)

SIR,

Government Office, St. Lucia, April 20, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward for transmission to the Secretary of State the Blue Book of this Colony for the past year, with the usual abstract and comparative returns annexed.

2. I had in my last report to comment on the shortcoming of the revenue in 1865, but I am happy to be able to testify to a better state of things in 1866, as the few observations which I shall proceed to offer upon the contents of the Blue Book will show.

Revenue.

3. The general revenue exceeded that of the previous year by a considerable amount.

	£	s.	d.
Revenue of 1866	15,293	12	4
Ditto of 1865 (exclusive of 1,000 <i>l.</i> loan)	11,727	7	5
Excess	3,566	4	11

St. Lucia. It was also greater than the estimate.

	£	s.	d.
Estimate for 1866 - - -	14,034	0	0
Amount collected in 1866 - - -	15,293	0	0
Excess - - -	£1,259	0	0

This was partly due to an increase in the rum duties and still licences. For 11 months of the year an additional duty of 6*d.* per gallon was levied upon rum manufactured and consumed in the Colony, and the still licences were increased from the nominal charge of 10*s.* to rates varying from 15*l.* to 30*l.*, according to the capacities of the stills; but this alone would not account for the prosperous condition of the revenue. The cause must also, I think, be sought for in the largeness of the crop, and the speculation, during the early part of the year, in the exportation of satin wood, which circulated a good deal of money amongst those engaged in procuring and preparing the wood for market. Both of these events re-acted favourably on trade, and to them is due in some measure the increase in the sums obtained from imports, tonnage, and excise duties.

A glance at the following comparative table will show the items in which the general revenue contrasts favourably with that of 1865:—

	1865.			1866.			Increase.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Imports - - -	4,710	8	1	6,527	0	4	1,816	12	3
Tonnage - - -	556	7	10	735	2	11	178	15	1
Liquor Licences - - -	934	0	0	1,267	0	0	333	0	0
Rum duties - - -	4,023	12	1	5,003	2	8	979	10	7
Fees, fines, and forfeitures - - -	592	3	2	797	11	8	205	8	6
Total excess - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,513	6	5

4. The Custom House returns show that the importation of most articles was greater than the year before. In some instances the quantities were stationary, and in a few there was a decrease. The following table includes the principal items in which there was an increase:—

Articles.			Imported in 1865.	Imported in 1866.	Increase.
Candles, tallow - - -	-	cwt.	287	836	549
Do., other kinds - - -	-	"	73	128	55
Coffee - - -	-	"	53	186	133
Corn meal - - -	-	barrels	77	990	913
Flour, wheat - - -	-	"	3,817	6,240	2,423
Fish, salted - - -	-	cwt.	6,198	7,719	1,521
Do., pickled - - -	-	barrels	189	232	43
Meat, salted and cured - - -	-	lbs.	87,874	140,461	52,587
Pepper - - -	-	cwt.	17	52	35
Oil, Kerosine - - -	-	gals.	1,154	2,345	1,191
Do., olive - - -	-	"	7,044	16,172	9,128
Rice - - -	-	lbs.	358,333	464,033	105,700
Spirits, rum - - -	-	gals.	2,775	3,783	1,008
Soap - - -	-	cwt.	840	1,034	194
Tobacco, unmanufactured - - -	-	lbs.	39,440	85,417	45,977
White pine lumber - - -	-	M.	306,392	411,371	104,979
Shingles by press and pine - - -	-	"	70,000	101,000	31,000
Shingles, Wallaba - - -	-	"	57,000	155,000	98,000
Shooks - - -	-	bdls.	1,506	2,626	1,120
MANUFACTURED GOODS.					
Linens and cottons - - -	Value, £		20,572	25,251	4,679
Hardware - - -	"		2,245	2,771	526
Hats and bonnets - - -	"		667	933	266
Leather, manufactured - - -	"		1,819	2,735	916
Silk, - - -	"		834	1,357	523

5. The annexed table shows the revenue derived from all sources :—

ST. LUCIA.

	£	s.	d.
General Revenue - - - -	15,293	12	4
Education - - - - -	563	17	9
Roads and Bridges - - - -	1,373	12	6
Immigration - - - - -	1,751	3	2
Military Property Fund - - -	153	16	7
Castries Harbour Dredge Fund - -	110	5	6
Loan Fund - - - - -	453	9	3
	£19,699	17	1

6. In this statement two new items appear. The "Castries Harbour Dredge Fund" is raised from an additional duty of 3*d.* per ton upon shipping to defray the loan (660*l.*) borrowed from the Immigration Fund to purchase a dredge to deepen the water at the wharves of this port. The "Loan Fund" consists of the proceeds of an *ad valorem* duty of half per cent. upon the duties collected on imports according to the tariff of 1857, including a few articles exempted in that ordinance, and is applied to liquidate a loan of 1,000*l.*, which was borrowed from the Road and Bridges Fund in 1865, to assist in meeting the general expenditure of that year.

Export Duties.

7. The tariff of these duties remains the same as heretofore, but the amount raised has been larger owing to the considerable increase in the exports themselves.

	£	s.	d.
Amount collected and carried to the Education Fund - -	136	0	10
" " " Roads and Bridges Fund -	758	8	11
" " " Immigration Fund -	1,398	13	7
Total - - - - -	2,293	3	4

8. The interest on and instalments of the Sinking Fund for the redemption of the Guaranteed Loans to St. Lucia (18,000*l.*) form the first charge on the duties under the last two heads. The amount so paid in 1866 was 1,408*l.* 12*s.*, namely, 195*l.* 12*s.* (roads and bridges), and 1,213*l.* (immigration).

9. The duties collected in 1865 only reached 1,889*l.*, making a difference in favour of 1866 of 404*l.*

10. *Imports and Exports.*

Imports.				Exports.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1862 - - - - -	93,606	15	1		87,991	15	0
1863 - - - - -	69,583	0	0		83,711	17	5
1864 - - - - -	90,363	1	3		111,383	15	11
1865 - - - - -	70,757	18	8		107,328	8	4
1866 - - - - -	91,504	13	8		109,482	18	8

11. The considerable addition to the value of imports is accounted for by the increased quantity, but there would have been a greater difference in the exports had sugar fetched the same price as the year before.

QUANTITY EXPORTED.

	Hhds.	Tierces.	Barrels.	Value.
1865 -	5,918	529	5,038	£92,404
1866 -	7,176	1,345	6,528	£89,360

12. It will be seen that whilst the quantity exported exceeded that of 1865 by 1,258 hogsheads, 816 tierces, and 1,490 barrels, the value was actually 3,044*l.* less.

13. Very little satin wood has been exported since my last report, as the price fell down to such an extent as to make a trade in it unremunerative. The total amount shipped during the year was 23,854 cubic feet, and the declared value of it 7,156*l.*

Expenditure.

14. The amount actually paid under the head of General Expenditure appears large, because the arrears of 1865 had to be defrayed out of the revenue of 1866, but in reality

ST. LUCIA. it was slightly below the estimate, and exceeded only by a small sum the expenditure belonging to the previous year.

		£	s.	d.
Estimated expenditure for 1866	-	14,025	14	0
Expenditure belonging to that year	-	13,939	14	2
Difference	-	85	19	10
		£	s.	d.
Expenditure proper of 1865	-	13,770	19	10
„ „ of 1866	-	13,939	14	2
Difference in favour of 1865	-	168	14	4

15. This excess was not due to any additions to salaries or creations of new appointments, but must be referred to a larger sum being required for the charitable institutions, chiefly for the maintenance and medical treatment of sick paupers in the General Asylum.

16. The total expenditure is shown below.

	£	s.	d.
General expenditure	13,939	14	2
Education (less 500 <i>l.</i> included in general expenditure)	468	5	5
Immigration	1,855	5	8
Roads and bridges	652	6	0
Military Property Fund	155	19	0
Loan Fund (cost of collection)	25	19	2
	17,097	9	5

17. If to this amount is added the arrears paid in 1866, we obtain the actual expenditure of that year, 18,567*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*

Local Revenue and Expenditure.

18. As the Corporation raise taxes from the same sources every year, and have undertaken no new work since my last report, their accounts present very little difference. The revenue amounted to 1,063*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure to 937*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* At the close of the year they had a balance to their credit of 209*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* I have had occasion to notice before that their establishment swallows up one-fourth of their income. Indeed, but for the penal gang being frequently placed at the disposition of the Mayor to assist in repairing the wharves, in filling up the swampy places in the town, and clearing out the large drains in order to improve its sanitary condition, they would find it hard to make both ends meet without increasing the assessment rate, which, owing to the poverty of the householders and low value of property in Castries, would bear hardly on the ratepayers.

Public Debt.

19. It is not anticipated that the debt of the Colony, consisting of 15,000*l.* borrowed for immigration purposes and 3,000*l.* for roads and bridges, will be extinguished before 1880. In the meantime the Sinking Fund continues to increase steadily; on the first of January last it amounted to 6,109*l.* 10*s.* stock in the three per cent. reduced annuities. Besides the loan mentioned last year as taken from the Roads and Bridges Fund for general purposes, 660*l.* has since been borrowed from the Immigration Fund (repayable in 10 annual instalments with interest at four per cent.) to procure a dredge for the Colony (one-fourth of the loan and working expenses of the dredge is to be paid by the Corporation). The amount due to the "Roads and Bridges" Fund is reduced to 599*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.*

Roads and Bridges.

20. The repairs to the public roads are effected principally by the system of "statute labour." Each male inhabitant between the ages of 16 and 60 (persons paying taxes to the Corporation of Castries and rural constables excepted) are required to give six days' labour in each year, three days in January, and the remainder in June. They can

commute this service by a payment of 3s. for each of these periods, failing which (and not working) they render themselves liable to a penalty which may be recovered by distress on their property, and, if nothing can be found, they are subjected to a certain number of days' imprisonment without hard labour. The system is but imperfectly worked owing to the difficulty of finding out the defaulters, in tracing their property, and the indifference with which the people regard imprisonment. The Stipendiary Magistrates are Road Commissioners in their respective districts, and associated with them is a Committee selected for the most part from the proprietors and managers of the estates through which the public road passes, and who are specially interested in its being kept in good repair. I have taken some trouble to get the system properly, that is fairly worked, and can only hope for further improvement, for at present I am convinced that many persons escape altogether. Not only is labour lost to the roads, but it is hard upon those who comply with the law that any should be able to evade it. The returns of the magistrates show that 18,657 days' labour were given last year; this would represent about 930*l*. The "commutation" money has not increased to the extent I had hoped, but a much larger amount of penalties was collected last year than in previous years.

		£	s.	d.
Amount collected in 1865	- - -	-	38	2 0
" " in 1866	- - -	-	216	11 6
Excess	-	-	178	9 6

21. This cannot fail to have a good effect as regards securing more labour, or its equivalent, commutation money. 413*l*. 4s. 3*d*. was advanced from the Road Fund for repairs to roads and bridges by hired labour (including materials).

Legislation.

22. The Ordinances passed were few in number, only five; all of them have been confirmed.

No. 1, 31st January 1866.—In consequence of the anticipated deficiency in the revenue (owing to the arrears of 1865) this Ordinance was passed to impose for the remainder of the year an additional duty of 6*d*. per gallon upon rum manufactured and consumed in the Colony.

No. 2, 5th April 1866.—This Ordinance gives legal sanction to the sums spent in excess of the estimates for 1865. The whole estimate was not exceeded, but some items were, amounting to 109*l*. 16s. It was also necessary to cover 97*l*. 1s. 3*d*. paid on account of the guaranteed loans (deficiency in the export duty) and a transfer of 98*l*. 12s. 2*d*. to the education fund to meet a deficiency in that account.

No. 3, 8th August 1866.—This is the annual Tax and Appropriation Ordinance, and is in most respects similar to that passed for the previous year. Under it tonnage duty is extended to whaling vessels, the additional duty of 6*d*. per gallon upon rum manufactured and consumed in the Colony is continued for the current year, and an additional duty of 3*d*. per gallon placed upon imported rum, in order to give the native production the same protection as heretofore.

No. 4, 17th October 1866.—This Ordinance authorizes a charge for judicial notices in the Official Gazette. As the whole charge of this publication is borne by the Colony and it is distributed gratuitously to the principal inhabitants, it was thought expedient to recoup a portion of the expense in this manner.

No. 5, 17th October 1866.—This Ordinance was required to cover supplementary estimates taken for "Hospitals" and "Charitable Allowances," amounting to 300*l*. This additional expenditure was rendered necessary by the increased outlay on the charitable institutions and the greater number of persons receiving out-door relief in the first district.

Education.

23. I have very little to add to my reports on this subject in previous years. There are the same number of schools and almost the same number of pupils. Applications have been made for grants to establish other Roman Catholic Schools, and there is no doubt that there are still places where the people are in want of the means of tuition near at hand, but the funds being limited the Board of Education have not been able to appropriate any part of it to this purpose. On the contrary, they have been obliged to

St. Lucia. reduce some of the grants to existing schools. The following Table shows the schools receiving aid and the number of pupils on the rolls of each establishment :—

	Mico Schools.			Roman Catholic Schools.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Castries - - -	105	—	105	92	—	92
Do., infant - - -	64	27	91	102	—	102
Do., convent - - -	—	—	—	—	297	297
Gros Islet - - -	53	13	66	61	41	102
Soufriere - - -	102	28	130	—	118	118
Do., infant - - -	50	11	61	—	—	—
Anse La Raye - - -	42	4	46	—	—	—
Choiseul - - -	59	29	88	—	—	—
Rever D'orée - - -	48	40	88	—	—	—
Laborie - - -	54	35	89	—	—	—
Vieux Fort - - -	60	43	103	—	—	—
Micoud - - -	43	13	56	36	31	67
Dennerly - - -	—	—	—	66	30	96
	680	243	923	357	517	874

24. The Mico schools received from the Protestant Committee of the Board 550*l.* 5*s.*, and their total expenses were 1,722*l.* 0*s.* 5½*d.*, the difference, 1,171*l.* 15*s.* 5½*d.*, being supplied by the trustees of the charity. The Roman Catholic schools received during the past year 649*l.* 15*s.* Adding the allowance to the secretary of the Board and the cost of collecting part of the revenue, we obtain a total of 2,388*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.* devoted to the promotion of education.

Prisoners.—Crime.

25. The gaol calendar is lighter than last year. The total number of prisoners committed was 541 as against 581 in 1865. Of these 19 had been committed once, 14 twice, and 10 three or more times before. 24 persons were indicted at the criminal sessions of the Royal Court, of whom 18 were convicted, 5 acquitted, and 1, who was out on bail, did not surrender to take his trial. The sentences passed ranged from four years' to six months' imprisonment with hard labour. Amongst the cases were three convictions for rape. The most serious case of crime was one for cutting and wounding with intent to murder in order to commit a robbery from the person; it only, however, came on for trial this year. The great bulk of the commitments was from the magistrates' courts for slight offences; amongst these are included the commitments for non-payment of the penalties inflicted for non-performance of the road service.

Population.

26. The Blue Book returns under this head are within the mark, for there is no complete system of registration of births and deaths; correcting the figures of the last census, in 1861, by the information supplied by the magistrates, it would appear that the population of the Colony amounts only to 29,519 persons, of whom 14,659 are male and 14,860 female, and of these there are only 888 whites, the rest are black and coloured.

Agriculture.

27. The crop was a very good one as will be seen from the following table, which gives the amount of produce exported during the last five years. The principal article "sugar" exceeded by more than one-fourth the quantity shipped last year, the difference between the two years being 2,363,592 lbs. Less rum was made and the greater part of it was as usual consumed in the Colony. It is feared that the dry weather towards the close of 1866 will cause a diminution of the crop of the current year.

	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Cocoa.	Cotton.
	lbs.	Gallons.	Gallons.	lbs.	lbs.
1862 - - -	8,762,415	104,800	8,275	191,392	—
1863 - - -	8,725,125	111,200	15,297	251,733	1,652
1864 - - -	8,110,025	126,900	2,070	221,759	18,296
1865 - - -	8,579,146	119,900	16,638	289,097	11,390
1866 - - -	10,942,738	147,200	5,981	192,885	8,138

Immigration.

ST. LUCIA.

28. Immigration to the Colony has ceased since 1862, and at present there are no immigrants under indenture except a few who, by imprisonment and absenting themselves from the estates upon which they were located without leave, had failed to complete their term of industrial residence. To relieve the Immigration Fund from a burthen which the expense of keeping up the district hospitals entailed upon it, these institutions were closed at the end of 1865, and during the past year the old system has been reverted to, under which employers of indentured immigrants were obliged to supply the sick with medical attendance, nourishment, &c. But in order to secure to those seriously ill amongst the unindentured immigrants the same gratuitous advantages which they enjoyed whilst the hospitals were open, an arrangement was made under which the Castries dépôt was used as a "free" hospital for cases "of extreme sickness, age, or infirmity." The number received into this institution last year was 184, at a cost to the Immigration Fund of about 300*l.*, of these 143 were discharged cured and 11 died in the dépôt. At the close of last year there were 1,212 Coolies in the Colony. The number of ascertained deaths was 21, and of births 22. The accounts of their condition was almost uniformly favourable. Some of them are habitually given to idleness and vagabondage, but the great bulk of them appear to give satisfaction to their employers. On some estates they cultivate canes in halves. In a short time the eight years' residence of the first brought into the Colony will expire, and it will then be seen whether they are content to remain or not. The emigration from hence to neighbouring colonies is very slight, although at one time there were indications of its becoming extensive.

Miscellaneous.

29. The Colony has been spared a visitation of the epidemic from which Guadaloupe suffered so severely in the early part of the year, and which subsequently attacked St. Thomas. The port of Castries is now the place of transhipment for the Royal Mail steamers employed on the southern route. The great natural advantages of the harbour has also induced the company to try it (experimentally) as a coaling station. The steamers employed upon this part of the line can come alongside the wharves to coal, so that no expense has been incurred beyond hiring a yard for a coal dépôt. Now that they transship here a saving of time will be effected by coaling at this port instead of at Grenada, and it appears very probable that this change will be permanently effected. A dredge (not yet quite completed) was procured from England last year to deepen the water near the wharves, which in some places has become shallowed from the deposit formed by the washings of the streets. The want of a dredge for this purpose has been felt for some time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. GRANT,
Administrator.

ANTIGUA.

ANTIGUA.

No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 98.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Leeward Islands, Antigua, August 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace the Blue Book of this Island for 1866, and also a short report thereon which I have requested Mr. Eldridge, the Acting Colonial Secretary, to prepare for me, as I was absent the greater portion of the year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor-in-Chief,
Leeward Islands.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

ANTIGUA.

SIR,

Antigua, August 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book for 1866, with a report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. M. ELDRIDGE,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Colonel Stephen J. Hill, C.B.,

Governor-in-Chief,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua, August 19, 1867.

Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.

1. The revenue of the Island is obtained principally from indirect taxation. The most important fiscal receipts are those derived from import and tonnage duties, yielding nearly two-thirds the entire revenue. In March it was found necessary to supplement the Import Act by an additional 25 per cent. on the then existing duties for a period of one year. For the first time in the annals of the Colony a Trade and Income Tax was levied, but from the imperfect machinery of the law it failed to produce anything like the estimated return, 1,726*l.* only being received, instead of 2,500*l.* The Excise Duty on rum has not been as prolific a source of revenue as formerly; the records show a lesser quantity upon which duty has been paid comparatively with the past few years of some 5,000 gallons, attributable, it is feared, not to a decreased consumption, but to an evasion of the duty. Fees from public offices, fines at the police court, receipts from the post office, the public market, licences for the retailing of liquors, buying metals, keeping of dogs, hiring of wheeled vehicles, form no inconsiderable portion of revenue.

The parochial assessment does not raise a sufficient amount for the payment of the clergy, 1,200*l.* per annum being chargeable on the General Revenue.

Revenue and Expenditure.

		£	s.	d.
2. The ordinary sources of revenue were	- - -	39,292	4	2
These were augmented by receipts from—				
Militia Export Tax	- - - £1,517	10	9	
Immigration Fund	- - -	2,640	17	9
Savings' bank	- - -	1,731	15	3
		5,890	3	9
Debentures, Antigua Waterworks	- - -	26,080	16	1
		71,263	4	0
		£	s.	d.
The ordinary expenditure was	- - -	38,013	11	2
Augmented by payments to—				
Militia drawback	- - - £150	0	0	
Savings' bank	- - -	803	10	0
Immigration	- - -	361	5	9
Waterworks Sinking Fund	- - -	1,018	15	0
		2,333	11	1
Construction of waterworks	- - -	24,163	13	4½
Balance consisting of—				
General Revenue	- - - £1,115	19	4	
Parishes	- - -	72	3	11
Militia export	- - -	1,367	10	5
Immigration	- - -	2,279	12	0
Waterworks	- - -	1,907	2	8½
		6,752	8	4½
		71,263	4	0

The introduction of the expenditure incurred in the construction of the waterworks materially swells the sum total of the financial year, but irrespective of this outlay the finances of the Island admit of favourable comparison with past years.

Upon an examination we find that during the year old liabilities amounting to 5,487*l.* were liquidated, while on the other hand the only extraneous revenue was derived from the Trade and Income Tax, and that only to the extent of some 1,700*l.*

This improved state of things is attributable to the shipment of a very large sugar crop, which for the average may be considered the largest ever made, to the additional wealth of the Colony from the export of over 500,000 lbs. cotton, together with direct increased revenue derived from the Tariff, Tonnage, and Excise Duties.

The expenditure of the Colony was also slightly decreased.

There is an evident determination on the part of the Legislature to reduce the expenditure of the Colony as far as may be consistent with the requirements of the public service.

3.—Immigration Fund.

	£	s.	d.
To Planters' Notes - - - - -	681	12	3
Messrs. Coutts and Co. - - - - -	134	15	1
Commissioners of Immigration - - - - -	3	4	10½
Earthquake Loan - - - - -	3,681	4	0½
Treasury - - - - -	23	4	2
Colonial Bank on interest - - - - -	2,256	7	10
	6,780	8	3

N.B.—The amount loaned to the Earthquake Loan accounts will be returned in 1867 and 1868.

4.—Public Debt.

	£	s.	d.
By Earthquake Loan - - - - -	10,000	0	0
Savings' Bank - - - - -	7,904	2	2
Notes in circulation - - - - -	2,000	0	0
Market Debentures - - - - -	2,000	13	10
Police Reward Fund - - - - -	103	16	2
Local Loan - - - - -	2,250	0	0
Waterworks' Debentures - - - - -	25,000	0	0
	49,268	12	2
To amount of Sinking Fund to retire Waterworks' Debentures - - - - -	1,500	0	0
	47,768	12	2

The public debt is worthy of examination, and reference gives following data for the basis of remark:—

	£	s.	d.
The amount of public debt in 1859 - - - - -	51,495	0	0
Do. do. 1862 - - - - -	36,306	0	0
Do. do. 1865 - - - - -	54,725	0	0
Do. do. 1866 - - - - -	47,768	0	0

A classification of these debts reveals the fact of a large diminution in the ordinary and extraordinary debts of the Colony which even the addition of the cost of permanent works constructed this year still fails to counterbalance.

ORDINARY.

1859.		1862.		1865.		1866.	
Treasury notes	£ 2,000	Treasury notes	£ 2,000	Treasury notes	£ 2,000	Treasury notes	£ 2,000
Loan for current expenses.	3,970			Loan for current expenses.	5,500	Local loan	2,250
				Arrears	3,750	Arrears	1,449
£ 5,970		£ 2,000		£ 11,250		£ 5,699	

1859.		1862.		1865.		1866.	
Earthquake loan.	£ 40,000	Earthquake loan.	£ 25,000	Earthquake loan.	£ 10,000	Earthquake loan.	£ 10,000
Savings' bank -	5,525	Savings' bank	5,986	Savings' bank	6,975	Savings' bank	7,904
£	45,525	£	30,986	£	16,975	£	17,904

PERMANENT WORKS.

1862.		1865.		1866.	
Immigration -	£ 1,320	Market -	£ 2,000	Market -	£ 2,000
Market -	2,000	Waterworks -	24,500	Waterworks -	23,500
£	3,320	£	26,500	£	25,500

Thus you have a decrease in ordinary debts from 1865 of 11,250*l.* to 5,699*l.*; in extraordinary debts from 45,525*l.* in 1859 to 17,904*l.* in 1866, while notwithstanding the addition of the heavy expenditure of the waterworks the debt of the Colony shows a decrease of some 7,000*l.* The waterworks debentures are provided for by a sinking fund of 1,000*l.* per annum for 20 years, which being placed at compound interest realizes at four per cent. the total amount of debentures of 30,000*l.*

5. *Legislation.*

If we were to measure the progress of legislation by a numerical record 1866 would fall far short of preceding years, as only 12 Acts were added to the Statute Book, but among these will be found legislation of the most important character that has occurred for very many years.

The change of the constitution was introduced by Sir Benjamin C. C. Pine in an able speech to the Assembly on the 10th October, and a reference to this document will fully illustrate the position of the Legislature at the time and unfold the views of the promoters of the measure.

The new Chamber is composed of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, the Treasurer, and eight Crown nominees, with twelve members elected by the freeholders.

The new Constitution Bill awaits the Royal Assent. (Is now in operation.)

Among the other Acts will be found Bills amending those relating to the Public Health, the Tariff, the Post Office, the Cemetery, Police, All Saints' Chapelry, and the Roads, while others organize the Militia and extend the provisions of a Loan Act.

6. *Military.*

The strength of the militia is 150 men, exclusive of officers and non-commissioned officers, and the cavalry about 80.

The militia receive 3*s.* for every drill, and 5*s.* for guard of honour or review.

The cavalry receive 5*s.* for every drill, and 10*s.* for escort or review, and a drawback of 25*l.* per annum for every trooper who has regularly attended for the year.

This drawback is provided by an export duty on sugar of 3*s.* 4*d.* per hogshead and other packages in proportion.

The discipline of the militia is very poor, and attendance irregular; the cavalry present a better appearance; there is more regularity in their attendance; but both corps want efficient drilling.

7. *Public Works.*

The construction of the waterworks advanced favourably during the year, and on the 27th of December, when the poor of the city and vicinity were very much in want of water, the cooling and refreshing element was unostentatiously allowed to flow into the city, and one or two stand posts were immediately opened for the free use of the people, much to their comfort and health. It is thought that the introduction of good water will tend materially to improve the health of the lower classes, while the protection to

property and the anticipated reduction in fire assurance will tend materially to benefit the upper classes.

This undertaking has been fostered by our able Governor, Colonel Hill, C.B., who from its conception manifested the liveliest interest in its success, and it must ever shed a lustre upon his administration, for no greater boon could possibly have been conferred upon the Island.

The works were carried out under the superintendence of John Wiltshire Clarke, Esq., C.E., of the Island of Barbados, and reflect the utmost credit on this gentleman's ability and skill.

8. *The Council, Assembly, and Civil List.*

The Legislature has been remodelled, as already noticed, by the substitution of the Single Chamber Bill for the Council and Assembly. The Executive Council remains as the advising body of the Governor.

There have been no material changes in the Civil List. The Treasurer, Mr. Henry Berkeley, assumed his duties during the year, and the Acting Treasurer and late Accountant, Mr. Beveridge, was promoted to the Treasurership of Grenada. Mr. E. D. Baynes, the Colonial Secretary, was called upon to administer the government of Grenada for the second time.

9. *Population.—Births, Deaths, and Marriages.*

The returns of the Registrar-General* show an increase of births, 1,353, against 1,310 deaths, the latter figures including 152 still-born.

The following comparison with past years is interesting :—

BIRTHS.						
1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
1,298	1,326	1,072	1,407	1,407	1,581	1,353

DEATHS.						
1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
1,344	1,403	1,738	1,734	1,750	1,534	1,310

10. MARRIAGES.						
1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
183	197	150	163	166	—	183

11. *Education.*

A very interesting report from the Commissioners of Education is appended to this return, in which it will be found, while the number on the school books is slightly decreased, the average attendance is increased some eight per cent. There are 52 schools in the Island, with 3,621 children on the books.

12. *Imports and Exports.*

The following figures are collated from the Treasurer's returns :—

		Imports.	Exports.
		£	£
1860	-	225,791	254,002
1861	-	208,677	237,123
1862	-	186,353	226,329
1863	-	173,912	239,630
1864	-	171,589	80,333
1865	-	165,388	192,632
1866	-	187,704	291,860

* Not printed.

ANTIGUA.

13. *Tonnage.*

	Entered.	Cleared.
	Tons.	Tons.
1860	35,430	35,313
1861	32,300	31,961
1862	31,710	29,705
1863	26,253	28,291
1864	22,532	20,492
1865	22,692	23,351
1866	29,564	28,498

14. *Crops.*

	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.
	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Puncheons.
1860	11,889	5,429	586
1861	10,818	5,399	507
1862	14,954	6,404	1,009
1863	13,581	6,148	931
1864	3,354	1,570	50
1865	9,524	4,987	576
1866	17,300	7,859	696

15. *Cotton.*

1865	279,400 lbs.
1866	590,091 „

The returns for 1866 contrast favourably with those immediately preceding it, and if the rainy weather had continued to the end of the year an improved state of things might have been looked for, but the prospects for next crop are gloomy, and 10,000 hogsheads will not be reaped.

The cotton crop will doubtless be much larger, as the acreage in cultivation is daily extending.

16. *Crime.*

The summary convictions before the magistrates for the past few years are as follows :—

1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
2,882	2,148	2,638	2,749	4,431	—	3,298

Petty crimes are still rife among us, but more grave offences are rare.

17. *Sanitary.*

The health of the Island has been unusually good. The want of water was severely felt in the latter part of the year, but a copious supply was introduced from the springs about five miles from the city in the month of December, which was most acceptable to the inhabitants as well as to the labourers residing in the villages and estates adjacent to the city.

18. *Immigration.*

The contracts with the Barbadians and Portuguese expired this year, and with few exceptions they have not been renewed, while on the other hand the number of passports demanded by the labourers upon the expiry of their term of service was very limited, and even making every allowance for those who may have returned without this document the number could not exceed 150, thus leaving the bulk of immigrants still engaged in agriculture. The want of labour is very apparent, and immigrants would readily find employment.

19. *General.*

ANTIGUA.

The general condition of the Island may be considered more satisfactory. The great change in the Constitution from the "King, Lords, and Commons" to a Governor and Single Chamber is expected to produce much good. The machinery of legislation is more simple, while its elements are not so liable to influence from party spirit or faction, both evils, productive of vast mischief in small communities, where two races too often contend for power to the injury of the mass.

The change has been effected without unkind feeling, and the new Chamber will bring to bear all its energy and ability in pushing forward various measures which have been in abeyance for some time pending the change already referred to.

The agriculturists have reaped an abundant sugar crop, far exceeding their expectations, while the new staple of cotton has assisted with its 590,000 lbs. in contributing to the wealth of the Colony.

Commerce, which might have been expected to improve, has not shown that vitality which could be desired; business is stagnant; and that confidence essential to prosperity is lacking in commercial circles.

There is a marked improvement in the appearance of the people. Occupation has been afforded both by the agriculturist as well as by the construction of the waterworks; but the tone of morality, it is much to be regretted, does not exhibit an equal amount of healthiness.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. M. ELDRIDGE,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Colonel Stephen J. Hill, C.B.,
Governor-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in No. 12.

Sub-Encl. 1 in
No. 12.

Address of his Excellency Sir BENJAMIN C. C. PINE, Administrator of the Government of the Leeward Islands, delivered to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL and HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY on the 10th October 1866.

MR. PRESIDENT, AND HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

AFTER some unavoidable delay I have much pleasure in meeting you in order to avail myself of your advice and assistance.

At the opening of the session, under other circumstances, there would be many subjects upon which I should desire to address you, but on this occasion I feel that the subject which I am about to present to your consideration is of such paramount importance as to demand our undivided attention.

On my assumption of this Government it seemed to me that it was in some respects not in a satisfactory condition.

Its financial embarrassment was doubtless in part owing to the severe droughts under which the Island lately suffered, but it also seemed in part owing, and other defects seemed entirely owing, to imperfections in your administrative machinery.

I was satisfied that these imperfections did not arise from any neglect on the part of those charged with the Executive Government; and I was also satisfied that they could not be removed by the mere action of the Executive Government as now constituted, for otherwise your able Governor would have removed them even as he removed many defects and abuses which came within the reach of his authority.

I felt therefore convinced that these evils arose out of the cumbrous nature of your Legislature and out of the defective organization of your Executive Government, and that they could only be effectually eradicated by simplifying the one and re-organizing and strengthening the other.

But considering my brief tenure of office, I had resolved not to initiate any measure for effecting these objects and to confine myself to administering the Government as I found it.

Circumstances however which it is unnecessary for me to mention to you have led me to change this determination, and to examine your political institutions with the view of endeavouring to amend them.

Your present Constitution was the creation of other times and of circumstances which have long passed away.

At the period of its creation the science of Colonial Government was in its infancy. The only model which presented itself to the eyes of early colonists was that of the English Constitution, then itself far from perfect. A rude imitation of this Constitution was imposed on all Colonies, whether of the dimensions of kingdoms or parishes.

ANTIGUA.

But this kind of Constitution, unsuited to a small Colony at any time, was not quite so incongruous at the time it was established in this Island as it is at present.

At that time there lived in the Island a large body of wealthy landowners, having ample leisure to devote to public affairs. They alone possessed political rights, and with few exceptions even personal liberty.

Socially, nearly upon an equality among themselves, it is not surprising that they accommodated themselves to a Constitution which gave them equal rights and was capable of being so worked as to become popular; almost republican in relation to themselves, purely oligarchical in relation to the classes below them.

In such a Government everything would then work smoothly enough; there could be no collision except personal ones, political collision between classes could not occur, for there was only one class in possession of political power.

But since those days vast changes have occurred.

The old race of landowners has for the most part passed away, and those of them that remain, and the newer resident proprietors, few in number, altogether are compelled by the altered state of affairs to devote all their time to the cultivation of their estates.

Further, the progress of events, and especially the great measure of emancipation, have called into civil existence masses of people formerly excluded from all rights.

In the olden time all who had civil rights at all were represented in the Legislature; now the franchise is possessed by 500 persons out of 37,000. This representation is now unsatisfactory.

Our legislative system is moreover far too cumbrous for the proper despatch of business. How many important bills are delayed for weeks and months in passing through your Houses, and after all are sometimes so defective as to require further legislation.

While a measure is dragging its slow length from House to House it is simply delayed, not considered.

The Executive branch of the Government is even more defective than the Legislative.

In former days there was really no distinct Executive Government. The Legislature through its committees executed the laws which itself had made.

An attempt was made to alter this vicious system by the establishment of the Administrative Committee.

It is impossible to deny that this measure has effected improvement, but it is equally impossible to deny that it has failed to do any considerable part of the good which was expected of it.

The system of committees is still retained in the form of boards, which disburse a considerable part of the revenue which ought to be disbursed by responsible officers.

The abolition of the salaries of the Administrative Committee has made it more difficult to get competent men to devote themselves to the public work. On the other hand, to restore the salaries would tend sooner or later to engender struggles for office.

In fact the great danger of the system is that it may lead to party Government, which in a small community is only another name for faction and anarchy.

I proceed to submit to you the measures by which I propose to remedy the evils and defects which I have tried to point out.

In considering the proposed alteration in the Legislature, two courses presented themselves to my advisers and myself. One of these was to substitute for the existing Legislature a Chamber composed exclusively of nominees of the Crown, making the Island what is called a Crown Colony; the other course was to establish a single Legislative Chamber consisting one half of officers and nominees of the Crown, and the other half of persons elected by the people, giving a casting vote to the Crown.

The portion of the community favourable to a change in the Legislature has been divided on this subject, and the discussions and political movements to which this division has given rise have been to me a source of much anxiety and perplexity.

After the most careful and anxious consideration I have determined to submit to you a bill to establish a single Legislative Chamber composed in the manner I have just mentioned, rather than one to establish the Crown Colony system.

This was my original proposal, and I adopt it because I believe that while it will effect all the practical good attainable by the other measure, it will leave enough of the elective element of your present Constitution to enable the voice of the people to be distinctly heard.

I believe also that this measure will go far to remove the evils of the present system of Legislature.

It gives us one compact Chamber, in which all interests are fairly represented, in place of our present cumbrous machinery.

It devolves the duty of preparing and submitting bills upon responsible and properly paid officers of the Crown, instead of upon unpaid and therefore really irresponsible members of committees.

It indeed increases the power of the Crown in the Legislature, but in whose favour does it do so? In favour of order and of steady progressive legislation. Above all, in favour of the unrepresented classes. I have said that the representation is now unsatisfactory, because while the mass of the people are not represented, to extend the franchise to them would be simply impracticable. This measure solves the difficulty. Who is so fitting a representative of the peasantry of these Islands as that Crown of England which called them into being as free men and citizens, and will ever be their protector while the Queen's flag flies in your land?

The measure for the reform of the Executive Government will be submitted to you later. It will simply abolish the Administrative Committee, and devolve its duties on the paid officers of the Crown, and will provide for a proper audit of the public accounts.

Now, gentlemen, I dismiss you to your labours, and may our Heavenly Father guide and enlighten you in considering the important measure submitted to you, concerning as it does the present and future prosperity and happiness of the people of this Island.

ANTIGUA.

Council Chamber, Oct. 10, 1866.

BENJ. C. C. PINE.

Sub-Enclosure 2 in No. 12.

Sub-Encl. 2 in
No. 12.

REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION for the Year 1866.

In commencing their annual report on the state of the schools of Antigua for the past year, the Commissioners of Education beg leave to state that the hope held out by them in their last report of an improved attendance, both as to number and regularity, throughout the schools of the Island, has not proved altogether unfounded; the improvement has been pretty general, and in one or two cases considerable, though in the last quarter of the year many suffered from the sickness which always more or less prevails among children at that season. At the close of the year there were 52 schools in operation receiving Government aid, of which 23 were Church of England schools, 20 Moravian, and nine Wesleyan schools. The changes made have been few and inconsiderable; a mixed school at the Point, founded and for some time supported by a private individual, was at the beginning of the year annexed to the Moravian Schools and placed on the Government list; the Moravian Infant and Juvenile Schools at Grace Hill have been embodied to form a mixed school, and at the Newfield Moravian station a juvenile and infant school have been formed in lieu of the large mixed school there.

The attendance in the schools throughout the year was—

Church or Denomination.	Number on Books.	Average Attendance.	Per-centage.
Church of England -	1,394	871	62·4
Moravian -	1,608	1,020	63·4
Wesleyan -	619	381	61·5
Total -	3,621	2,272	62·4

being an increase of 293 on the books, and 364 in average attendance, which is equal to an improvement of 5·1 per cent. on that of the year 1865.

Notwithstanding the book grant of 80*l.* mentioned in the last report of the Commissioners, the books in many of our schools (particularly those used by the younger portion of the children) again need replenishing, and for that purpose the Commissioners have voted a sum of 40*l.*; with this they propose procuring suitable books themselves, and dividing them among the several schools in accordance with their requirements. The Commissioners would gladly, were it in their power, grant larger sums for this purpose, as they are well aware that the ministers in charge of schools seldom have any fund at their disposal for the purchase of these necessities, to supply which, from the treatment they usually receive at the hands of the children, is no inconsiderable part of the difficulty experienced in the maintenance of schools.

There have been but few changes made among the teachers, and those generally for the better; the rules passed by the Commissioners prevent the appointment to schools of teachers who cannot obtain a certificate of competency at the annual examination, and thus influenced, ministers seldom fail to procure the services of men trained at one or other of the training schools of the Island, when such are to be procured; notwithstanding this it will be found difficult to maintain an efficient staff of teachers here, while in other islands, where the standard of efficiency for teachers is no higher than it is here, considerably better salaries are offered them. When the year closed there were 76 teachers in charge of the Government schools, including assistants, many of whom are only sewing mistresses. The total salary paid them according to the quarterly returns was 1,626*l.* 7*s.* 1½*d.*, or an average salary each of 21*l.* 4*s.* per annum.

Of those teachers who presented themselves at the last annual examination, five passed in the second class and 10 in the third class; those in the second class have received gratuities at the rate of 5*l.* per annum each, while the gratuities due to those who had passed in the previous examination in 1864 have been continued up to the present time. The sum expended by the Commissioners in this way for the whole year was 39*l.* 15*s.*

Four pupil-teachers with a salary of 5*l.* per annum each have been appointed, and there is a probability of the number being increased when young persons qualified for the office have been procured by those schools which are entitled no them. The Commissioners regret that it is not in their power to make any return to the teachers for the additional labour which pupil-teachers entail on them. The two young persons towards whose maintenance at the Spring Gardens "Girls" Training School the Commissioners granted the quarterly sum of 3*l.* 18*s.*, have since been employed as assistant teachers, and their places filled by two others, for whose benefit the Commissioners continue to make the usual grant.

ANTIGUA.

The total cost of the schools, as gathered from the quarterly returns, was 1,648*l.* 1*s.* 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*, towards which the Commissioners granted 722*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*, the remainder of the income being derived from school fees and funds obtained from extraneous sources.

The Commissioners are also pleased to report that the amount received from the children in the shape of school fees has continued to increase during the past year; this they consider a source of encouragement both present and future, being a proof of the ability and willingness of the labouring population to pay a small part of the cost of that education which they are daily beginning to value more and more.

The sum obtained from this source was 348*l.* 17*s.* 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*, being nearly 70*l.* more than that received in 1865, and 154*l.* in excess of the school fees of 1864.

Or to state the above particulars with reference to each child, it would appear that during the year—

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
The cost of education according to return was	9	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	} per caput,
The amount of grant	4	0	
The amount of fees paid	1	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	
the latter of which is nearly double the sum received in 1864.			

Of the state of the schools themselves the Commissioners are also able to report more favourably, both with regard to their general management and the comparative proficiency of the pupils; the irregularity of the attendance, which seems almost irremediable, and the early age at which children are often removed from school by their parents, tend to make the latter however very fluctuating, and much more difficulty is experienced in maintaining a certain standard of merit, even for a year, than in obtaining that standard. In many of our schools steady progress has been made in the primary and essential subjects, and few of these even in which no great improvement is noticeable, can be said to have retrograded much.

At the close of the year there were 38·6 per cent. of the number on the books able to read the Scriptures. In no subject so much as in this do our children improve so rapidly up to a certain point, and in no subject do they less seldom obtain efficiency; while in almost all of our schools the elder children can always read readily and correctly, individual cases of good intelligent reading are only occasionally met with. Among our best readers we notice that the girls invariably read with most fluency, the boys with most intelligence. There is reason to be satisfied with the progress made in writing, though from a variety of causes less success attends the instruction in this subject than that in any other; the most important of these causes are the unwillingness of parents to provide copy books (in the Windward Schools, where this difficulty is most felt, the writing is least satisfactory); the imperfection of the instruction (the pupils being sometimes it is feared rather permitted to write than taught to write); the inadequate supply of a proper variety of pens (the children often have to write the three different hands, large, round, and small, with the same pen), and no child using the same pen on two consecutive occasions. The last of these evils might easily, and should certainly be remedied.

During the last half-year, the results of the written examination in spelling show a marked improvement on the year 1865, the per-centage of errors on the number of words written varying from 1·4 to 18·9; the three best schools were Green Bay, Spring Gardens, and Cedar Hall, all Moravian juvenile schools. Though in arithmetic great intelligence and considerable proficiency are frequently met with, the Commissioners cannot report that a thoroughly satisfactory standard of accuracy and efficiency in this subject has been yet reached by the majority of the schools. The pupils seem seldom to master the principles of any one rule sufficiently to enable them to apply those principles with any degree of readiness or skill to the solution of new problems.

Of the historical facts of the Scriptures, the knowledge possessed by the more advanced pupils in nearly all of our schools is in many cases very creditable and in some highly satisfactory, but the desultory character of the oral lessons, which are frequently given without any regard to chronological order, tends to leave the minds of the younger children in great confusion as to the order and succession of events, and in this subject, as also in geography and grammar, the knowledge gained from oral instruction must always be imperfect, disconnected, and fragmentary, in a more or less degree as the master may be able or indifferent in imparting such instruction. In the two latter subjects there are few of our more intelligent children who do not possess many useful pieces of information, but there are none who can be considered satisfactorily acquainted with either subject.

In conclusion, the Commissioners, though they think they have on the whole good reason to be satisfied with the condition of the schools, both during the past year and at the present time, and with school prospects for the present year, still they cannot but admit that there are schools now in receipt of Government aid whose sphere of usefulness in the cause of education are and must necessarily be, from the nature of the case, of the most limited kind, and they are convinced that could the number of the schools in the smaller villages be judiciously lessened, and one or two stations at present unoccupied provided with infant schools without seriously affecting denominational interests, the cause of education would be greatly benefited without any additional outlay, either public or private, being necessitated.

The Commissioners append quarterly summaries of attendance, &c.,* together with an account showing the state of their funds after meeting all claims upon them for the year 1866.

(Signed) G. W. WESTERBY,
Chairman pro tem.

* Not printed.

MONTSERRAT.

MONT-
SERRAT.
No. 13.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 121.)

MY LORD DUKE, Leeward Islands, Antigua, October 8, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from President Pyne forwarding the Blue Book and Report on the same.

2. The delay that has arisen in preparing this document is attributed to the increased duties imposed on the Colonial Secretary without any clerical assistance being afforded him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,

Governor-in-Chief,
Leeward Islands.His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c.

&c. &c. &c.

COPY of a DESPATCH from President PYNE to his Excellency Colonel
S. J. HILL, C.B.

(No. 24.)

SIR, Government House, Montserrat, September 28, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward three copies of the annual Blue Book for the year 1866.

2. The Colonial Secretary has explained to me that the delay which has arisen in preparing the statistics contained therein has been owing to the increase which has been made by the Legislature to the duties of his office without affording him any clerical aid. I concur with the Colonial Secretary that since it has devolved upon him to perform the duties of the late Loan Commissioners, in addition to many others, it has become imperative that he should be allowed the services of a clerk.

3. I did not assume the administration of the Government of this Colony until May 1867, I, therefore, have no personal knowledge from observation of the varied and interesting statistics collected. I, however, subjoin the following summary of the principal items forming the Returns.

Revenue and Expenditure.

This year, as compared with last year, commenced with a debt of 681*l.* 11*s.* 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*, against 65*l.* 6*s.* 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* of the previous year, showing an increased liability on the outset of 616*l.* 4*s.* 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* To meet this arrear an Act was passed increasing the half-yearly instalment of the tax on the value of real property payable on the 10th of February 1866 from 7*s.* 6*d.* per cent. to 12*s.* 6*d.* per cent., which raised as sum of 348*l.* 17*s.* over the usual instalment. The export duty on horned cattle was temporarily increased for one year from 8*s.* per head to 20*s.*, which also yielded a satisfactory augmentation to the revenue. Under an Act passed in January to provide for the care of the poor and lunatics, the assessment of a poor rate on the value of real property to meet the expenses of the maintenance of the poor supplemented the general revenue 712*l.* 1*s.* 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* A Stamp Act also passed, which did not come into operation until late in the year. This Act works satisfactorily.

MONT-
SERRAT

The return of the revenue and expenditure of 1866 is as follows:—

[illegible]

Revenue.

The entire cost of collecting and disbursing the revenue, including all incidental expenses, is 144*l.* 0*s.* 3½*d.*, or 1⅙ per cent. on the amount raised.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of 1866 is in excess of that of 1865	-	-	£	s.	d.
But after deducting expenditure of a "temporary"			1,604	3	8 ³ / ₄
and "extraordinary" nature, viz., difference of					
debt from that of last year	-	-			
Building a pier	-	-	616	4	3 ¹ / ₄
Stamps and dies	-	-	504	11	2 ³ / ₄
Weights and measures as standards	-	-	15	3	6
Grant to Wesleyans	-	-	35	0	0
Cholera medicines and quarantine	-	-	100	0	0
			156	2	6
			1,427	1	6

The excess of "fixed expenditure" is	-	-	-	-	177	2	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
--------------------------------------	---	---	---	---	-----	---	-----------------

A police force has been established, consisting of—

					£	s.	d.
An Inspector	-	-	-	-	120	0	0
1 Sergeant	-	-	-	-	50	0	0
8 Privates at 36% each		-	-	-	288	0	0
Rent of station	-	-	-	-	40	0	0
					498	0	0

The fees paid into the Treasury for 11 months amount to	£	s.	d.
And the services of a public nature for the performance	87	5	6
of which constables were paid from the Treasury,			
annually, may be estimated at the very low rate of	- 100	0	0

187 5 6

The old system of having constables who were paid by fees was most objectionable, and attended with very bad results, as the constables could never be depended upon for the peace and good order of the community.

MONT-
SERRAT.

Public Debt.

The Colony's liability to Her Majesty's Government on account of 23,000*l.* advanced in 1844 for the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake of 1843 has continued to be punctually met.

	£	s.	d.
The thirteenth instalment of principal (3,000 <i>l.</i>) retained by the Colony for the restoration of public buildings, with interest - - - - -	189	0	0
Thirteenth instalment of 7,118 <i>l.</i> with interest, for which the Colony is made liable by the default of private borrowers whose properties have been sold without realizing the amount lent - - - - -	448	8	7
Total thirteenth instalment - - - - -	637	8	7
Currency debt of - - - - -	378	14	3½
Interest on above - - - - -	34	1	4¾

The loss in taking up the mutilated currency of the island is owing to the amount of coins in base metal, and the large quantity of copper pieces called "dogs," which passed for $\frac{2}{7}$ of a penny sterling, and were of no intrinsic value.

Public Buildings.

These are very much out of repair, nothing beyond temporary repairs seem to have been effected this year, or indeed for many years previously, owing to the perennial opposition of the late House of Assembly to every attempt of the Executive to remedy the evil.

The principal public buildings of Montserrat may be said to consist of,—

1. The Gaol.
2. The Court House.
3. The Saint Anthony's Church.
4. The Church of St. George.
5. The Church of St. Peter.
6. The Chapel of Ease in Plymouth.
7. The Kinsale Chapel.
8. The Workhouse.
9. The Hospital.
10. The Lunatic Asylum.

The Gaol.

This building is deficient in size and accommodation. There exist no means of preventing the indiscriminate association together of male and female prisoners during the time they are allowed to take out-door exercise in the gaol yard.

There are no proper latrines for either class of offenders, a want which results in practices very unwholesome if not absolutely perilous to health in a tropical climate. There are no baths or sanitary arrangements of any kind. The ventilation is decidedly insufficient.

There are no store-rooms, and the system at present in vogue for provisioning the gaol is open to much objection. No contracts are entered into for stores, and the procuring of sufficient food to meet the daily wants of the prisoners is precarious and unsatisfactory; upon the whole, however, I have thought the gaol the best organized and decent of our institutions.

The Court House.

The interior of this building is utterly out of repair, and the windward side of the roof has lately fallen in; so bad is the state of this building that at the last session of the Court of Queen's Bench the Judge openly said in court that he should have locked up two juries had he had a place to confine them sufficiently protected from the weather.

MONT-
SERRAT.*Churches.*

There are five churches in this Island, as specified in the list above, of these two may be considered as comparatively safe to remain in during Divine service; of the others, the roof of one of them threatens to fall in at any moment; the others have already fallen in, and are consequently utterly deserted.

The tax payers of these districts complain, very naturally, that they punctually pay their taxes and have no facility for attending Divine worship.

Workhouse, Hospital, and Lunatic Asylum.

These buildings are contiguous to each other, and are collectively known as the "Château." They present a most lamentable spectacle of inadequate accommodation and general disorganization. There is but one superintendent, one subordinate overseer, and one matron to attend to the entire requirements of the whole combined establishments; the average number of inmates at any one time being about 50 to 60.

In none of these buildings is there a single latrine, the consequence being that paupers, lunatics, and invalids wander promiscuously into the adjoining fields or bush country for the purpose for which provision would be made in any well-organized community. They thus wander at will, unattended and uncontrolled. There is no wall round any of these buildings, and no attempt whatever at sub-division of boundaries for the purpose of classification of the inmates of institutions of so dissimilar a character. At ordinary times of recreation lunatics, paupers, and invalids of both sexes wander and mingle together under the shade of trees in various parts of the grounds. Nothing can be more unsuited to the state of a lunatic, and nothing more cruel and trying to the other unhappy creatures who are lingering in their old age from poverty or sickness.

By reason of the absence of enclosures escape is not only not prevented, but positively invited. The superintendent informs me that lunatics do continually escape and wander for days or weeks, as the case may be, over the Island before they can be discovered and retaken.

The record books of the "Château" bring to light the most sad and horrible details of lunatic females giving birth to illegitimate children while in the asylum. And these disgraceful calamities are, I presume, unavoidably passed over as impossible to guard against, owing to the difficulty of keeping the inmates within separate bounds. Throughout these institutions beds are only partially provided, and the cells for lunatics are not all boarded.

In the hospital will be seen but few windows and doors, and there are no means of giving separate quarters to persons afflicted with different species of disease, with the exception of leprosy. Those suffering from this terrible complaint are congregated together in a shed, through which both rain and wind pass freely, the roof and sides being decayed for want of timely repair. There is no floor to this shed, and in the rainy season it is a mass of mud and dirt.

Owing to a rather prevalent belief that leprosy is a contagious and infectious malady those unfortunate people are little tended or cared for. Those who can assist themselves do so as best they can, and those who are in a more advanced stage of disease are entirely dependent on the disposition or capability of their less suffering comrades.

Before quitting this subject it is my duty to observe that no blame can properly be attached to this government in respect of the circumstances above narrated.

I have already remarked that under the late constitution it was not always feasible to obtain a willing co-operation of the House of Assembly. And moreover for the last 20 years this Island has been without intermission overwhelmed with debts, and every available shilling has been applied to the liquidation of the Colony's liabilities. Increased taxation to any great extent is impossible. The present taxes are in many instances excessive, burdensome, and unequally assessed. The whole country has for many years been in a most depressed condition, and has lost one by one its best sources of wealth.

The agriculture of the Island has been at a standstill, and almost abandoned. The once beautiful and lucrative plantations (the export duty upon the produce of which yielded a handsome revenue to the exchequer) are now uncultivated, and the valuable machinery dismantled and useless, while on the other hand the country has had to contend with the heavy obligations created by the Earthquake Loan of 1843, which it is still discharging by annual instalments.

Roads.

The public roads are annually repaired by means of statute labour under the Road Act.

*Legislation.*MONT-
SERRAT

Twelve enactments were passed during the year.

1. "An Act to provide for the care and maintenance of the Poor and Lunatics."
2. "An Act to grant to Her Majesty a Stamp Tax."
3. "An Act to establish a Police Force in this Island."
4. "An Act to grant to Her Majesty a Tax or Duty upon certain articles exported from this Island."
5. "An Act to vest certain powers in the Captain of Fort Barrington for the better enforcing of Quarantine in this Island."
6. "An Act to amend the Poor and Lunatic Act."
7. "An Act for establishing certain regulations of Police for this Island."
8. "An Act to regulate the Registration of Deeds and Wills."
9. "An Act to suspend the operation of part of the Stamp Act, 1866, and to amend the said Act."
10. "An Act for establishing a Board of Public Works."
11. "An Act to repeal the 29th Section of the Constitution Act, 1862."
12. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of the Island of Montserrat."

The necessity for simplifying the Legislature of this Colony and adopting one more suited to the available materials admitted of no question.

The new Constitution Act abrogates the late Legislative Assembly, and destroying the elective element therein commits the Government of the Island more immediately to the care of the Crown.

It establishes a Legislative Council, to be composed of the Governor and not more than five Councillors, who shall be appointed by Her Majesty by warrant under Her sign manual and signet, who henceforth will designate such officers as She may think fit to be respectively official or ex-officio and unofficial members of the said Council.

Population.

The population by the census of 1861 was	-	-	7,645
Births from 1862 to 1866	-	-	1,472
Deaths in same period	-	-	769

Increase from births - 703

Estimated population 1866 - 8,348

Annual increase for five years of 1.84 per cent.

COMPARATIVE ABSTRACT OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, and DEATHS for 1865 and 1866.

PARISHES.	No. of Births.	Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		No. of Deaths.
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
St. Anthony and St. Patrick	156	19	20	61	56	90
St. Peter	86	16	15	29	26	23
St. George	105	20	17	31	37	46
1866	347	55	52	121	119	159
1865	248	44	52	81	71	148

DEATHS.						MARRIAGES.	
	Adults.		Under 14 years, and over 1 year.		One year and under.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1866	39	61	11	13	20	15	28
1865	50	45	8	11	20	12	18

MONT-
SERRAT.

The estimate of population is exclusive of immigration, which has within a few years been steadily going on from Barbados and Antigua, while emigration to Trinidad and St. Vincent has ceased.

Education.

No Local Government grant is afforded to the schools in this Island, but it is hoped that this state of things will shortly be improved.

DAY SCHOOLS.

		No.	No. of Scholars.			Cost.
			M.	F.	Total.	
	Church of England -	9	292	323	615	£ 138
	Wesleyans -	4	111	77	188	60
					803	£198

The Roman Catholic day school has been closed for want of means.

The schools in connexion with the Church of England are supported by funds placed at the disposal of the Bishop of Antigua by the Home Government and by Christian ladies' societies in England; those of the Wesleyans by voluntary contributions principally received from England.

The currency and the weights and measures are the same as are in use in Great Britain.

COMPARATIVE ABSTRACT of IMPORTS and EXPORTS of 1865 and 1866.

Imports.							Exports.							Sugar Crops.
Value.				Duty.			Value.				Duty.			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
1865 -	15,795	2	1½	1,553	19	0¾	20,915	15	4	389	8	10⅓	Hhds. 1,052	
1866 -	18,684	10	9	1,620	7	9¼	19,898	0	9	728	16	6	1,587	

SHIPPING.

	INWARDS.			OUTWARDS.		
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crew.
1865 -	161	5,272	922	143	4,520	480
1866 -	159	6,301	903	143	5,617	832

Charitable Institutions.

Hospital Poor House and Lunatic Asylum combined. Daily average number of inmates :—

LUNATICS.			POOR.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
4	4	8	22	20	42

Total inmates 50, who, with poor receiving out-door relief, cost 628*l.* 5*s.* 2¾*d.* for the year.

His Excellency Col. S. J. Hill, C.B.,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. PYNE,
President.

ST. KITTS.

ST. KITTS.

No. 14.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 130.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Leeward Islands, Antigua,

August 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from the Lieutenant-Governor of St. Kitts, forwarding the Blue Book for the year 1866.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,

Governor-in-Chief,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Leeward Islands.

(No. 102.)

Government House, Basseterre, St. Kitts,

SIR,

August 16, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency herewith the Blue Book for 1866, the year preceding my arrival in this Colony.

As Mr. Holligan in his report accompanying the Blue Book of 1865 entered very fully into a detailed examination of the condition of this Colony, I am unable, with my short experience of St. Kitts, to add anything to the account which he drew up last year with so much ability.

Duties, Taxes, Fees.

During the year 1866 there were no changes in the tariff of duties or in the schedule of fees, except that, owing to the flourishing state of the exchequer, it was found practicable to remit for one year, that is, for nine months of 1866 and for three of the current year, 15 per cent. of the export and import duties.

An equal remission was also made in 1866 on the export tax for immigration purposes in consequence of the large balance which remained to the fund set apart for special purposes of immigration not being required.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1866 fell short of that of 1865 by the sum of 572*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, and this diminution may be fairly attributed to the diminished sugar crops, for although the crop of 1866 was a good one, it was considerably below the exceptionally fine crop of 1865.

The revenue for the year 1866 was 24,504*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*, while that of 1865 was 25,076*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* The balance in the treasury at the end of the year 1866 available for the service of 1867 was 5,436*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

Public Works.

Nothing has been expended in the past year on public works beyond the sums required for the repairs of the several buildings belonging to Government and the general improvement of the roads of the Island.

Legislation.

The most important Acts that have been passed in the last year are,—

1. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of the Islands of St. Christopher and Anguilla."
2. "An Act to make better provision for the conduct of the Executive Government of the Islands of St. Christopher and Anguilla."
3. "An Act to amend the Laws relative to the Repairs of the Roads."

By the first of these Acts the constitution existing was abolished, and a single Chamber substituted for the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, which had hitherto transacted the business of the Colony under the guidance of the Administrative Committee.

ST. KITTS.

The new Chamber appointed by this Act consists of 20 members, of whom three hold seats ex-officio, viz., the Attorney-General, the Secretary to Government, and the Auditor-General. Seven are nominated by the Governor, subject to the approval of Her Majesty, and 10 members are elected by the respective parishes. The Governor is authorized to appoint one of the nominated members as paid President with a double or casting vote.

By the same Act the duration of Assemblies, which had previously been limited to three years, was fixed at five.

The second Act, viz., "To make better provision for the conduct of the Executive Government," &c., was a necessary consequence of the above-mentioned Act, the operation of which it more clearly defined.

It begins by abolishing the Administrative Committee, and provides that the Executive Council previously existing shall remain the same until or unless Her Majesty shall otherwise determine.

It provides for the appointment by the Queen of a Secretary to Government and an Auditor-General, to be with the Attorney-General (already appointed by previous legislation) the three officers of Government, who are also ex-officio members of the Executive Council.

The 3rd Act above mentioned is the "Road Bill," which was carried last year after a great deal of opposition on the part of the landed interest. This Bill provides for the appointment of a surveyor of roads, under whose direction all public roads in the Island shall be repaired.

By this enactment all proprietors or possessors of estates are compelled to repair and keep in order such portions of the public road as pass along or through their lands, while all wall and other mason work necessary to be built are repaired at the public expense by the surveyor.

This Bill, which at the time was looked upon as a most arbitrary and unjust measure, and was opposed with great energy by the representatives of most of the estates, has worked thoroughly well and given universal satisfaction, and even those who the most strenuously opposed the measure are now constrained to recognize the great advantages that have resulted from it, and admit that their opposition was, however natural, founded on mistake.

His Excellency Colonel Hill, C. B.,
Governor-in-Chief, Antigua.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. G. MACKENZIE.
Lieutenant-Governor.

NEVIS.

No. 15.

NEVIS.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 131.)

MY LORD DUKE, Leeward Islands, Antigua, September 9, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from Lieutenant-Governor Mackenzie forwarding the Blue Book of Nevis, with a Report thereon, for the year 1866.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor-in-Chief,
Leeward Islands.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham & Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 103.)

SIR,

Saint Kitts, August 26, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Nevis Blue Book in duplicate for 1866 (the year preceding my arrival in this Colony), with the Colonial Secretary's report thereon.

His Excellency Colonel Hill, C.B.,
Governor-in-Chief, Antigua.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. G. MACKENZIE.
Lieutenant-Governor.

REPORT on Annual BLUE BOOK, for the year 1866.

NEVIS.

1. *Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.*

Taxes and other sources of revenue are the same as reported for the year 1865 without increase or diminution.

2. Fees, although in certain respects altered, will remain in practice as they have been until the law amending the constitution of the Colony takes effect. The Colonial Secretary will then cease to receive what has hitherto been designated "ship's bond fees," that is,—

8s. on all vessels under 40 tons.	} entering inwards or outwards.
12s. „ „ above 40 tons.	
16s. „ square-rigged vessels,	

Rectors, officiating ministers, clerks, and sextons of parochial churches, have ceased to receive fees on the burial of the dead, provision having been made by the Legislature to compensate each participant interested for his vested rights by an annual grant of 50*l.*, to be divided according to a specific rule founded on the basis of an average of five years of receipts for this service; on the death or removal of present incumbents, &c. the pecuniary provision reverts to the public chest.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1866 compares advantageously over former years save 1865, but when the continuous drought of 1866 is considered, with its consequences, no surprise need take place, the high price of food and all other commodities acted as a restriction upon trade, hence a deficit in the comparative statement of 1866 versus 1865, amounting to 909*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*; on the other hand the disbursements for the same period amounted for 1865 to 8,060*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* and for 1866 to 6,883*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

The revenue of 1865, amongst other items comprised a loan from the Colonial Bank of 2,000*l.* sterling, 1,200*l.* of which was repaid in 1866 with interest at 8 per cent. per annum, consequently, as a matter of fact, the year 1866 exhibits a higher ratio of prosperity than any previous year in our Financial departments.

The local revenues, namely, parochial taxation, has literally ceased to exist. This system of taxation merited its own destruction, it was arbitrary, unfair, and in practice founded upon no principle of uniformity, as may be illustrated by the fact that Nevis is an island of 50 square miles, is divided into five parishes; taxation in each varied according to the will of each respective churchwarden. These officers acknowledged no superior, nor did they account for receipts and expenditure but at pleasure, some of whom are nevertheless entitled to honourable mention.

Comparative yearly Statement of Revenue and Expenditure already above treated.

The public debt is made up of the following items:—

	£	s.	d.
H. M. Government last instalment of Earthquake loan	-	619	10 0
Thomas Farr, executor	-	1,180	0 0
Colonial Bank	-	500	0 0
Local exigencies	-	400	0 0
		<u>2,689</u>	<u>10 0</u>

On the 1st January 1866 Nevis was indebted 4,200*l.*, on the 1st of January 1867 her debt was reduced to one half of the above amount, and there is little doubt if our resources are maintained upon the present financial system, barring new and unforeseen causes of expenditure, we shall, by the 31st day of December 1867, be freed from embarrassment.

Military Expenditure.

None.

Public Works.

The ecclesiastical property by law has been taken over by the public, if not actually, certainly virtually; consequently, building and repairing, the furnishing of the sacramental elements, and other expenses necessary for the conducting of the ordinances of the Church, must fall upon the public revenue generally.

NEVIS.

The court-house requires some repairs not exceeding 20*l*.

The gaol finishings are somewhat incomplete in respect to pointing of the exterior walls, and plastering a part of the interior.

Queen's House will require for repairs 25*l*., for repairs of furniture 25*l*. = 50*l*.

Legislation, &c.

The Laws passed during the year were few, and the Proclamations only relate to incendiary fires and matters of minor importance, a detail of which follows:—

1. "An Act to establish a Post Office in the Island of Nevis, specially confirmed by order of Her Majesty in Council."
2. "A Proclamation declaring the Island of Martinique to be an infected place, and therefore subjected to Quarantine."
3. "A Proclamation releasing the Island of Martinique from Quarantine restrictions."
4. "An Act to make better Provision for the Conduct of the Executive Government of the Island of Nevis."
5. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of Nevis."
6. "A Proclamation declaring the Islands of Saint Thomas and Seba to be infected places, and therefore subjected to Quarantine."
7. "A Proclamation appointing a special sitting of the Court of Queen's Bench and Common Pleas."
8. "A Proclamation proroguing the Legislative Houses for the space one month."
9. "A Proclamation proroguing the Legislative Houses from 27th December to 3rd of January 1867."

Political Franchise (ab initio).

Council and Assembly.

These institutions have virtually ceased to exist. A single Chamber composed of two ex officio members, namely Colonial Secretary and Solicitor-General, and three nominated members with five elective ones and the Governor as their head, make up the legislative elements of Nevis.

The franchise in respect to qualification of members remains undisturbed.

Civil Establishment.

Represented in pages Nos. 75 to 84 (of Blue Book) and requires no remarks.

Officers Security.

Mentioned in their proper places.

Pensions.

Demand no remarks.

Foreign Consuls.

None.

Population.

This subject of such vital importance has latterly received increased attention, and although the Colony from its limitedness is ill provided with a medical staff, yet the public health has not been neglected, and the records of births and deaths for a period of five years may be safely relied upon in their expressed numbers of each. The population of Nevis is an increasing one from natural fecundity. It has also increased by immigration comprised of Portuguese, Barbadians, and Coolies. The number of the population at present is about 11,000.

It is to be regretted that the marriage list is very low in proportion per 1,000, but this is to be accounted for by the silly pageantry and show which attend upon every marriage. This institution, unlike baptism or burial, has outgrown its proportions. A peasant's nuptials is equal to an arbitrary contribution levied by an enemy on a community; no wedding is accomplished under an average expenditure of 100*l*. The bride's wardrobe, the appanage of the bridesmaids, the festal board, the next succeeding sabbatical display at which the interested parties are religiously obligated to repeat the bridal ceremonials and extravagancies of the wedding day are quite sufficient to deter any honest humble man from offering his hand to a female in the ordinary walks of life.

*Savings Banks.*NEVIS.

Institutions of this character are not extant in Nevis.

Ecclesiastical Returns.

This subject offers no very material ground for observation, the stipends of the clergy and the support of the establishment remain as heretofore.

Education.

On this subject nothing satisfactory can be advanced; as a matter of fact the rising generation has not been properly cared for by the Legislature, not a shilling of the public revenue of 1866 has been appropriated for this essential purpose. There are eight schools supported by the Church of England and by the Wesleyan Society, aided by extra contributions. The number of scholars now under tuition is less than that of 10 years ago. The cause is the deficiency of funds to support competent teachers. The remedy proposed under the circumstances is, that the Colony must in the next year's estimates provide for education as it does for the administration of justice, the Church, and the support of the Civil Service, otherwise a future remains for Nevis not pleasing to contemplate.

Local Publications.

None.

Coins and Exchanges.

As heretofore reported unaffected by any change.

Imports and Exports.

Imports have somewhat declined, but as this element is dependent upon exports, and that exports have also been limited in quantity, the question may at once be answered, that drought predominated, crops were shortened, and in the ratio of declining crops exports and imports suffered.

Shipping.

The tonnage returns of this Colony have for the last few years exhibited a tendency to decline both in the number of vessels trading and in the aggregate of tonnage; but this affords no evidence of a decay of commerce *per se*, because the amount of imports for the same period tends upwards. The fact is, that unregistered carrying boats now perform the service that registered vessels performed heretofore.

The trade between Nevis and the neighbouring islands has increased, the means of carriage has undergone a transition. Nevis at present is small represented by vessels of tonnage, but nearly 150 boats of an aggregate tonnage of 500 carry on the trade. These boats are built at and belong to Nevis, consequently this branch of industry is a monopoly in its favour.

Manufactures, &c.

No matter worthy of remark requires to be stated. Sugar, rum, and molasses have been produced as usual.

Grants of Land.

No land to grant.

Gaols, &c.

The common gaol is a commodious building in good preservation and well suited for the purpose. It is calculated to contain 75 persons, and is subdivided into 18 several apartments. No increase of crime is reported. The sanitary condition has been very much improved, the surface of the courtyard raised with the best material, and the drainage is now perfect.

Charitable Institutions.

Charitable institutions, there are two; one an asylum for the relief of the aged, infirm, and poor. This institution is supported at an expense of 225*l.* from the public

NEVIS.

tunds, and from local assistance to some small extent. It is situated within the prescribed limits of Charlestown, and is capable of sheltering 36 persons at one time. Medical and surgical aid is supplied when required at a further cost from the public funds.

There is a Dorcas institution which distributes a very considerable amount of ready-made clothing once a year to as many of the out-door poor as may be brought under the notice of the promoters.

Literary.

There is only one institution, a library, kept at the court-house in Charlestown; it is supported by private subscriptions. The Colony has so far patronized it as to place the keeper in the rank of public officers with a suitable salary.

VIRGIN
ISLANDS.

No. 16.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 115.)

MY LORD DUKE, Leeward Islands, Antigua, July 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from the President of the Virgin Islands, forwarding the Blue Book for those Islands for the year 1866.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, Governor-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c. Leeward Islands.

(No. 46.)

SIR, Tortola, July 4, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for this Colony for the year 1866, and the report thereon.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Governor Hill, C.B., (Signed) ARTHUR RUMBOLD.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1866.

	£	s.	d.
The revenue of 1865 amounted to	-	-	1,893 11 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
„ 1866 „	-	-	1,995 9 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Leaving a balance in favour of 1866 of -	-	-	101 18 0 $\frac{1}{4}$

This surplus was occasioned by the collection of the revenue during seven months of the year on an improved system under the provisions of the Revenue Protective Ordinance. This increase would have been considerably greater but the cholera and other epidemics at St. Thomas checked materially both the imports and exports for the last two months of the year.

The expenditure was necessarily larger, and 96*l.* 12*s.* 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* was spent in Quarantine and Board of Health expenses.

Public Debt.

2. The public debt is entirely extinguished, the last instalment was duly paid off in December last.

*Public Works.*VIRGIN
ISLANDS.

3. The sum of 32*l.* was expended on the necessary repairs of churches and chapels, and 21*l.* in the mending of the highways.

The court-house remains unfinished, 600*l.* was expended on it in 1865 and the early part of 1866; it requires a further sum of 500*l.* to complete it. Such is the poverty of the Colony that it is impossible to raise the money in it, though it could easily be repaid by instalments, as an economy of 40*l.* a year would be effected by its completion, that sum being annually paid for the rent of a court-house and public offices. The money already expended was a grant from the Imperial Government from the first year's unappropriated rent of the Island of Sombrero, which has always been considered as forming a part of the Virgin Islands Government. The liberality of the Imperial Government will be entirely thrown away if this indispensable building be not speedily covered over, as the exposure to the heat of a tropical sun and to rains will soon rapidly split up and destroy the masons' labours.

Legislation.

4. Ten ordinances were passed in 1866, but only two deserve special notice :—

1. The Revenue Protective Ordinance.

By the wise provisions of this ordinance a more effectual supervision of the collection of the revenue has been effected; it was estimated to give an increase of 200*l.* on the year; as it only came into operation after the expiration of the first quarter, and as the ports were almost closed during the last two months of the year in consequence of the unhealthy state of St. Thomas, the estimate was nearly realized, as for the seven months an increase of 101*l.* was effected.

2. An Ordinance to alter the time at which the Land Tax becomes payable.

All the taxes fall due towards the end of the year, and it was deemed advisable therefore to collect the land tax in the first quarter of the year.

Population.

5. The number of births in 1865 are reported to be 218, as against 182 in 1866; the deaths were 133 in 1865, and 118 in 1866; there has not been any emigration or immigration movement, and it is difficult to account for the lesser number, both of births and deaths.

Education.

6. In the Church schools the number of scholars has increased from 196 in 1865, to 229 in 1866; in the Wesleyan schools the number has diminished from 283 in 1865 to 244 in 1866.

Imports and Exports.

7. The imports of 1866 have been in excess of those of 1865 by 1,609*l.* The respective figures being

1866	£10,241
against 1865	8,633

£1,609

The additional supervision will account for this increase.

The exports present a diminution of 304*l.*

Those of 1865 being	£8,617
Those of 1866	8,313

£304

All trade and commerce remain nearly stationary in these Islands, the decrease in the exports may be accounted for by the nearly total cessation of exports for two months of the year during which quarantine was in force.

Gaols and Prisoners.

8. There were 45 male prisoners in gaol in 1866, only two were from the general court, all the others being petty sessions cases or peace warrants; there were also 14 female prisoners, all from the court of petty sessions. Crime does not appear to be on the increase, and as the jurisdiction of the petty sessions court is extended so as to embrace nearly all the offences committed, offenders are thus speedily and summarily dealt with.

VIRGIN
ISLANDS.

General Remarks.

9. In a Colony so depressed it is hopeless to expect to record great results, but a better system of collection of revenue having been substituted, and the imposition of additional import duties having been effected, it is confidently trusted that the salaries of the public officers will be more punctually met, and all public engagements be regularly provided for, and though the imposition of additional taxation is to be regretted, even to defray urgent and unforeseen contingencies, yet it must ever be a matter of deep congratulation that under the blessing of Divine Providence the means adopted to prevent the introduction of cholera and small-pox into these Islands from St. Thomas during the late fearful visitation of that Colony were effectual and successful.

ARTHUR RUMBOLD.

Tortola, July 4, 1867.

DOMINICA.

DOMINICA.

No. 17.

No. 17.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HILL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM and CHANDOS.

(No. 63.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Leeward Islands, Antigua, October 31, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a Despatch from the Officer administering the Government of Dominica, forwarding the Blue Book of that Colony for the year 1866.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham
and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor-in-Chief, Leeward Islands.

(No. 88.)

SIR,

Government House, Roseau, October 25, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency herewith the returns composing the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

As I was not in the Island during any portion of that period my observations on these returns will necessarily be somewhat limited.

Taxes and Duties.

2. In addition to the existing taxes and duties a rate of 10 per cent. was this year imposed on all the amounts payable under the authority of the various Acts in force, with certain slight exceptions.

The monies raised by this rate were specially devoted towards the repayment of the loan of 4,000*l.*, which it was found necessary to raise at the commencement of the year.

3. The excise duty on rum and spirits was reduced from 2*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. It will be seen that the total revenue of the Colony for the year is represented at 19,166*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, and the total expenditure at 18,367*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* But the former sum includes an amount of 4,100*l.* obtained by loan, while of the latter sum about 3,733*l.* formed no part of the expenditure proper of the year, but was a pressing debt of the Colony, being indeed for the most part due to the public officers for arrears of salary; and it was to meet this debt that the loan was raised.

Deducting these extra amounts, the revenue and expenditure proper of the Colony for 1866 may be placed respectively at about 15,066*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* and 14,634*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

5. The actual sum collected in the year, exclusive of the loan, was 14,321*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* against 13,271*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* in 1865, showing an increase of 1,049*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* of revenue in 1866.

6. This difference is to be accounted for partly by the imposition of the additional rate of 10 per cent. upon receipts, and partly by the fact that a great portion of the amounts which appear under the heads of Income Tax and House Tax receipts was, though properly due in 1865, not actually paid till the next year.

There was an increase of 621*l.* 18*s.* in the receipts from imports, and of 131*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* in the receipts from exports, over the respective receipts of the previous year; and the income tax and house tax referred to produced together in 1866 a sum of 729*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* against 42*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* received in 1865.

On the other hand there was a decrease in the receipts from tonnage duties and harbour fees; and the excise revenue was less than that of the preceding year by 273*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*

Public Debt.

7. The public debt of the Colony at the end of 1865 was placed at 10,908*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* On the 31st December 1866 it amounted to 9,620*l.*

8. The loan of 4,100*l.* raised within the year enabled the Colony to meet its standing liabilities, and by the close of the year 1,000*l.* of the loan was repaid.

Public Works.

9. The principal public work executed during the year was the repair of the court house, on which a sum of 500*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.* was expended.

10. The maintenance of the public roads is a separate charge, having a special fund. The money collected for this service amounted during the year to 1,249*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*; but some portion of this was applied to the liquidation of former accounts.

Legislation.

11. Fifteen Acts were passed in the course of the year.

12. Two of these Acts relate to the loan to which reference has been made, providing for the raising of the same and its repayment.

13. Three other principal Acts were passed relating to the revenue. The first, amending an "Act to impose a duty on the tonnage of vessels entering at ports of the "Island," and authorizing at option a payment of package duties at fixed rates in lieu of tonnage duties. The second, entitled the "Rum Duty Act, 1866," repealing former Acts, regulated the future sale of spirituous liquors, wines, and malt liquors, and provided for a duty on the consumption of rum in the island. The third, entitled the "Customs Duties Act, 1866," altered the schedule of duties payable under the Import Duty Act of 1855.

By this Act the duties on bread and biscuits, butter, cheese, coals, dried and pickled fish, corn meal, hams and bacon, lard, rice, sago, brandy, refined sugar, tar, tiles, unmanufactured tobacco, and on some woods were increased.

The duties on asses, horses, foals, mules, candles, corn, building lime, peas and beans, and on some woods were lowered.

The following articles were made subject to an "ad valorem" duty of 10 per cent., namely, bran, bricks, cocoa, coffee, corks, silk and cotton handkerchiefs, dried or preserved fruits, garlic, nuts, pepper, slates, and turpentine.

14. Of the other Acts the principal are:—

(1st.) An Act making further provision, by conferring powers on the Board of Health, for preventing the introduction and spread in the Island of infectious diseases. This Act was passed at the time of the epidemics of cholera and yellow fever in some of the neighbouring islands.

(2nd.) An Act to amend the "Prepayment of Postage Act, 1863," which, amongst other provisions, raised the amount of postage on intercolonial letters from 5*d.* to 6*d.*

(3rd.) An Act authorizing the payment of public salaries and allowances monthly instead of quarterly.

(4th.) An Act for granting fixed salaries to coroners in lieu of fees and allowances. This Act has effected a considerable saving to the Colony.

And (5thly). An Act making provision for the proper registration of voters.

Population.

15. The population of Dominica according to the census of 1860 was 25,060.

DOMINICA.

16. The Registrar-General of the Colony, Mr. Lockhart, estimates the population on January 1st, 1867, according to the returns kept up since the census, at 26,398. He contrasts the returns of 1866 favourably with those of the preceding year. He states that while the number of deaths in a slightly increased population has remained the same with that for the year 1865, the birth rate has increased.

According to his books the number of births during the year was 721, and the number of deaths 519.

17. The Registrar-General notices the high rate of mortality among the infant population of the Island, which he attributes to the too frequent neglect by parents, and to crowded and unhealthy dwelling-houses.

Ecclesiastical and Educational.

18. The great body of the population is Roman Catholic. The members of the Church of England and of the Wesleyan Mission are limited in number.

19. There are two resident Wesleyan missionaries; one in Roseau, the other on the northern side of the Island. The Church of England has but one minister, the rector of the parish of St. George.

The establishment of the Roman Catholic Church consists of a bishop, a vicar-general, and 10 priests, who are divided among the parishes of the Island.

20. The Church of England alone is supported by the Colony, at a fixed annual charge of 376*l.*

21. For educational purposes the Colony makes an annual grant of 700*l.*, the expenditure of which is subject to the provisions of the "Education Act" of 1863, and is under the direction of a Board of Commissioners presided over by the Governor.

22. Some schools are established and supported entirely by the Government. Some are simply assisted.

All so supported or assisted are subject to the control of the Board and of the Inspector of Schools.

23. No interference is permitted with the religious education of the schools which are assisted, and in the public schools no religious instruction whatever is given.

24. Children above the age of seven years taught in the public schools are required to pay a fee of 1*d.* weekly.

The school fees received in 1866 amounted to 37*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*

25. According to the returns of the past year there were six public schools under the control of the Board, with a total number of 446 scholars, male and female.

The aggregate cost of these schools was 463*l.*, besides the salary and travelling expenses of the inspector, which amounted to 124*l.* Only two schools appear to have received assistance from the Board; one a Wesleyan school in the parish of St. Andrew, to the extent of 12*l.* 10*s.*, and the other, a Roman Catholic boys' school, to the extent of 40*l.*

26. The Government grant of 700*l.* is under the circumstances of the Colony a most liberal grant.

It is much to be desired that the educational advantages to be derived from it should embrace a greater proportion of the population than is at present the case.

The enforcement of the weekly fee is undoubtedly a hindrance to very many children whose parents are either unable or unwilling to pay it.

The present Educational Act terminates with the year 1867, when the experience of the past few years will doubtless lead to a far wider extension of the benefits of the grant.

Imports and Exports.

27. The total value of the imports into the Colony during the year is given at 61,188*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*

This is against 52,374*l.* in 1865, and 43,558*l.* in 1864.

28. Of this total, the value of the imports *directly* from Great Britain was 25,941*l.*; of those from the British Colonies, principally from Barbados, and thus *indirectly* from Great Britain, 27,589*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

The value of the imports from foreign countries, chiefly from the island of Martinique and from the United States, was 7,657*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*

29. The increase of 8,814*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* in the value of the imports in 1866 over those of 1865 appears under the heads of Flour, Hardware, Cottons, Linens, and Silks.

30. The total value of the exports from the Colony during the year is given at 106,452*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*

31. The chief exports are sugar, rum, molasses, coffee, cocoa, and cattle.

32. There was an increase of 298,863 lbs. in the export of sugar upon that of 1865.

There was also a slight increase in the export of cocoa.

There was a decrease in the export of coffee.

The facilities of communication with the French islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe enable a too frequent evasion of the revenue laws.

33. The coffee of Dominica is perhaps of the finest quality in the West Indies; and previous to the blight of 1831 the Island exported sometimes as much as 2,000,000 lbs. in the year.

34. Some little attention has been of late given to the cultivation of cocoa, and with success. The soil is peculiarly favourable to this cultivation, as it is to that of coffee, but the quality of the cocoa produce is not, I believe, equal to that of Trinidad.

Shipping.

35. The total number of vessels that entered at the ports of the Island during the year was 193, with an aggregate total of 7,493 tons, against a total in 1865 of 241 vessels and 7,965 tons.

The total number of vessels that cleared from the Island was 187, with an aggregate total of 6,630 tons, against a total in 1865 of 237 vessels and 8,211 tons.

The amount of tonnage therefore, both inwards and outwards, was less than in the preceding year.

36. A principal part of the trade of the Island is with Barbados, British goods being in a great degree imported thence.

Gaols and Prisoners.

37. The total number of prisoners committed in the course of the year was 345, of whom 218 were men and 127 were women.

Of these 19 were under 18 years of age; as many as 327 are stated as being unable to read.

38. It is to be observed that out of the total number of 345, 126 were committals under the Road Act for default of labour or payment in lieu thereof, and 20 cases were of debtors; thus the number of prisoners committed for general offences was 199.

Charitable Institutions.

39. The Colony makes a liberal provision for its poor.

40. The present system, which is one of in-door relief, out-door relief being given in exceptional cases, was established in 1858.

41. The poor house is situated on Morne Bruce, at a distance of little more than a mile from the town. The buildings of which it consists were formerly the soldiers' barracks.

42. The establishment is under the direction of a Board of Guardians, and there is a resident master and a matron.

43. There is no fixed annual grant; but the expenditure is dependent on the discretion of the Board, subject always to the approval of the Governor.

The expenditure in 1866 was 1,092*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* over and beyond the salaries paid by the Treasury to the medical attendant and the master and matron, which together amounted to 260*l.*

The average expenditure for the five preceding years was 1,265*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* beyond the fixed salaries above mentioned.

44. The number of inmates on the 1st of January 1866 was 86; in the course of the year there were 86 new admissions, making a total of 172 inmates during the year. Of these, 36 died and 43 were discharged, leaving a number of 93 inmates on the 31st of December.

45. A lunatic asylum, with a keeper who receives a salary of 30*l.*, is affiliated to the poor-house establishment.

There were only three inmates during the year, of whom one was discharged.

46. Besides these public establishments there is an infirmary in Roseau which is under private management, but is to a great degree supported by the Colony, which supplies the medical attendance and contributes an annual grant of 160*l.* in addition.

47. The income of the infirmary in 1866 was 236*l.* 17*s.* 9½*d.*; its expenditure, 258*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*

DOMINICA.

48. The number of patients remaining in the establishment on the 1st of January 1866 was 20. There were 167 admissions in the year, making a total of 187 patients, of whom 123 were discharged and 29 died.

49. These remarks on the charitable institutions of the Island would be incomplete, without a notice of the Female Orphan Asylum. This institution is supported by the Bishop of Roseau, and is attached to the Roman Catholic Convent.

It affords a home to not less than 60 orphan children under the age of 16, who are here not only provided for in a manner that is at once liberal and simple, but are also educated and brought up with scrupulous attention, and carefully trained for the future duties of life.

The institution and its management are an honour to its conductors, and a benefit of no ordinary degree to the community.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. E. BULWER.

His Excellency Governor Hill, C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.
Antigua.

R E P O R T S

SHOWING THE

PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE BOOKS

For the Year 1866.

PART II.

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES;
AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA;
AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND;
THE MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS, &c.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
30th March 1868.



L O N D O N :

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE.
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

SCHEDULE.

PART II.

No. in Series.	Colony.	Page.
NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.		
1	CANADA - - - - -	4
2	NOVA SCOTIA. (Not received.) - - - - -	4
3	NEW BRUNSWICK. (Not received.) - - - - -	4
4	PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. - - - - -	4
5	NEWFOUNDLAND - - - - -	9
6	BERMUDA - - - - -	10
7	BRITISH COLUMBIA - - - - -	12
AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA.		
8	SIERRA LEONE - - - - -	20
9	GAMBIA - - - - -	20
10	GOLD COAST. (Not received.) - - - - -	22
11	LAGOS - - - - -	22
12	CAPE OF GOOD HOPE - - - - -	23
13	NATAL - - - - -	24
14	ST. HELENA - - - - -	32
AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND.		
15	NEW SOUTH WALES - - - - -	34
16	QUEENSLAND - - - - -	70
17	VICTORIA. (Not received.) - - - - -	97
18	TASMANIA - - - - -	97
19	SOUTH AUSTRALIA - - - - -	120
20	WESTERN AUSTRALIA - - - - -	140
21	NEW ZEALAND. (Not received.) - - - - -	142
MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS.		
22	GIBRALTAR - - - - -	144
23	MALTA - - - - -	144
24	HELIGOLAND. - - - - -	146
25	FALKLAND ISLANDS - - - - -	146

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

CANADA.

No. 1.

CANADA.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor General Viscount MONCK to his Grace
the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 86.)

My LORD DUKE,

Ottawa, November 21, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual Blue Books for the late
Province of Canada, for the years 1865 and 1866, with nine volumes of the Appendix to
that of 1865.

I am informed that the Appendix for 1866 is not yet ready, but that as soon as the
various Reports can be obtained they will be bound and forwarded.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) MONCK.

NOVA
SCOTIA.

No. 2.

NOVA SCOTIA.

No. 2.

(Not received.)

NEW
BRUNSWICK.

No. 3.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

No. 3.

(Not received.)

PRINCE
EDWARD
ISLAND.

No. 4.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor DUNDAS to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No 13.)

My LORD DUKE,

Government House, February 7, 1868.

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, duplicate copies of the Blue Book of
this Colony for the year 1866.

2. The termination of the Reciprocity Treaty with Great Britain, of which notice was
given by the United States in 1865, was anticipated with apprehension in this Colony, and
fear was entertained that trade would be seriously affected by a return, on the part of
the United States, to its protective policy.

3. Under this treaty there had been, since 1854, reciprocal free trade between the
United States and this Island in agricultural produce, fish, and several other articles. On
its termination in March 1866, the United States placed upon these commodities duties,
which from the following table appear, as regards the principal agricultural produce, to
have proved practically prohibitory.

Principal articles of Export to the United States.		Quantity exported to United States, 1865.	Duty imposed by United States Tariff, 1866.	Quantity exported to United States, 1866.
		Bushels.		Bushels.
Oats - - -	Free of duty under Reciprocity Treaty, 1854-1866.	705,510	10 cents per bushel - -	Nil.
Barley - - -		42,415	15 cents " - -	Nil.
Potatoes - - -		114,277	25 cents " - -	75
		lbs.		lbs.
Butter - - -		20,960	4 cents per lb. - -	730
		Barrels.		Barrels.
Eggs - - -		1,550	10 per cent. ad valorem - -	907
Mackerel - - -		16,530	\$2 per barrel - -	13,488

The value of the total exports to that country fell from 120,928% in 1865 to 21,633% in 1866.

4. Owing to the high prices for grain in other markets the Island farmer has not felt any loss from being deprived of this additional one. Oats, the staple produce of the Colony, and formerly the principal export to the United States, have commanded higher prices in the market here since the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty than they did during its continuance, and I believe that every bushel that could be spared from the requirements of the Colony was exported in 1866.

5. It would, therefore, appear that the policy of the United States in this matter has merely had the effect of diverting that portion of the surplus of the agricultural produce of this Island, which would otherwise have found its way into their markets, into others equally remunerative.

6. The exportation of oats to the United Kingdom for the year is about double that of the preceding one. The apparent disadvantages under which the markets of Great Britain lie, owing to their geographical position and greater distance as compared with those of the United States from the Island ports, are counterbalanced by the circumstance that in this Island ship building is carried on exclusively, I may say, for the British market. New ships formerly had to go to New Brunswick for a cargo of timber; since the increase of the trade in produce with Great Britain they usually carry a more remunerative cargo of oats, with a deck-load of timber.

7. It may not be out of place here to remark that, since the date of these returns, an additional market has been opened for the oats of this colony, and that during the past year an exportation of that commodity to France has commenced, which, from present appearances, is likely to increase during the ensuing season.

8. With the Reciprocity Treaty terminated the right of United States vessels to fish within the limits of the fisheries round the coasts of this Island, to which British subjects have an exclusive right. A temporary arrangement was, however, made in concert with the other British North American Colonies to issue fishery licences for the season of 1866 to United States vessels on payment of a fee which was little more than a nominal one, viz., two shillings a ton. These licences were mutually recognized, and gave the right to fish in the waters of the other British North American Colonies, as well as in those of the Colony by which the licence was issued. 565% was received for licences issued in this Island during the season of 1866.

9. It is considered that the Colony does not receive an equivalent for the valuable privileges which these licences confer, and the arrangement is in consequence regarded with dissatisfaction on the part of the colonists. I am, I believe, considerably within the mark when I say that 200,000 barrels of mackerel were taken to the United States market from the fisheries round this Island by United States fishermen in 1866, and I understand that the greater part of this fish, and the finest class of it, is caught in the waters open to foreigners under these licences.

10. Their vessels are on an average about 60 tons; an average catch is, I understand, about 10 barrels a ton. The value of mackerel varies considerably, but taking at a low computation the value of a barrel to be \$10, the value of the fish caught by one of these vessels in a season is \$6,000, on which \$30, the colonial licence fee, at two shillings a ton, is a very trifling amount.

11. The United States market is the only one, at present, for the finest and most valuable class of mackerel, and on that fish caught by foreigners the United States tariff imposed a duty of \$2 a barrel. Had the fishing trade been extensively pursued by the colonists this tax would probably have had a serious effect, but the Island population engaged in the fisheries is small. Nor can there be much doubt, that, notwithstanding all the precautions the custom house may take, United States fishermen do purchase fish from the colonial boats to fill up their cargoes, and that in this way a portion of the fish caught by Island fishermen must find its way into the United States ports duty free, as caught by their own citizens.

Revenue and Expenditure.

12. The total revenue fixed and incidental was 63,628% ; of this, however, 6,857% is the surplus from sales of lands, after paying the expenses of the Land Office, and making allowance for the loss of land tax, and 1,702% was received on account of the sale of the old military barracks. After the deduction of these incidental items, the revenue proper was 55,068%. Of this revenue 43,490% was derived from import duties; 23,880% on importations from the United Kingdom, 11,425% on those from the other British North American provinces, and 4,949% on those from the United States.

13. The total expenditure appears as 102,888/., but of this 54,923/., was expended on the purchase of estates of non-resident proprietors. The expenditure proper was, therefore, 47,932/.. There was, therefore, a surplus of ordinary revenue over ordinary expenditure of about 7,000/.; the public debt was thus, notwithstanding the large outlay for proprietary estates, only increased by 39,268/., i.e., from 49,760/., to 89,028/.

14. To meet this debt of 89,028/., (which is the balance against the Colony after giving credit for cash, and bonds in treasury and in the local banks,) there are 48,362/., due on account of sales of land, and 244,779 acres of unsold land.

Imports and Exports.

15. The value of imports in these returns is their declared value; the value of exports is computed by the local-custom house according to the prices of the Island market. The bushel and the gallon throughout are the Winchester measures.

16. It appears that the value of imports for the year was 444,745/., as compared with 381,015/., in 1865, and that the value of exports (not including 136,292/., the estimated value of new ships,) was 246,816/., as compared with 291,545/.. There was, therefore, an increase in the value of imports of 62,930/., and a decrease in that of exports of 44,729/.

17. The value of imports from the United Kingdom was 219,842/., an increase of 59,711/.. The value of exports thereto 118,608/., an increase of 53,732/.

18. The value of exports to the United States fell from 120,928/., in 1865 to 21,633/., in 1866, and of imports from 90,800/., to 74,186/.

19. Imports from Canada were in value 25,253/., an increase of 17,889/.; the increase is in the importation of flour. The exports to Canada were very trifling, viz., 2,133/., in value.

20. The value of imports from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 113,005/., and of exports, 102,000/., show little difference as compared with those of the preceding twelvemonth.

Government Savings' Bank.

21. A savings' bank was established by local Statute, 27 Vict. cap 4. This bank, the first of its kind in the Colony, commenced business in June 1864. The balance in this bank due to depositors was on

31st December 1864	-	-	1,014/.
31st December 1865	-	-	3,822/.
31st December 1866	-	-	7,470/.
31st December 1867	-	-	9,390/.

Interest is allowed at 5/., per cent., but no depositor can claim interest on a sum exceeding 66/., 13s. 4d. (100/., currency).

22. At present the only office for deposits is at the treasury in Charlottetown. It is, in my opinion, well worthy of consideration, whether it would not be advantageous to afford the country people greater facilities for availing themselves of this bank by establishing offices, at any rate at one or two of the principal towns.

Legislation.

23. I had great satisfaction in reporting the manner in which the Legislature, during the session of 1866, without a dissentient voice, placed the whole revenue at the disposal of the executive Government for purposes of defence. The Legislature also, in the same session, passed a law which enabled me to call out the militia for training as in the neighbouring provinces.

24. The action of the Legislature enabled me to build drill sheds and to commence the reorganization of the local forces. This work is now proceeding in as satisfactory a manner as the grant, 1,666/., placed in my hands by the Legislature in 1867, allows.

25. Confederation was again discussed in the Legislature, but met with little more favour than in the preceding year. Resolutions against union with the other Colonies were passed unanimously in the Legislative Council, and by a majority of 21 to 7 in the House of Assembly: an address to Her Majesty was also passed praying that Her assent might be withheld from any Act intended to effect an union of Prince Edward Island with Canada and the other British North American Colonies.

Land Purchase.

26. During the year the estates of the late Sir Samuel Cunard in this Island, comprising 212,000 acres, were purchased by the local Government for the sum of 53,000/.,

or five shillings an acre. Half of the purchase-money was to be paid within eighteen months, in four instalments, and the remaining half by debentures redeemable in ten years, and bearing five per cent. interest.

27. Of the 1,365,400 acres of land in this Island, about 450,000 acres are held by occupiers in fee simple, and 244,779 acres belong to Government. 669,600 acres belong to proprietors, of which 209,702 acres are held by tenants under lease, and 459,898 acres are unsettled.

Education.

28. There is an Act imposing a general assessment on lands to raise funds for the purposes of Education, and in 1866 2,841*l.* was paid into the treasury from that source.

29. 9,618*l.*, or about one-fifth of the ordinary expenditure, comes under this head. Of this, 9,215*l.* was appropriated for salaries of teachers in the common schools. The expenditure under this head, I may add, must be much larger for the year just closed, as the Legislature in 1867 reverted to the system of paying the whole of the teachers' salaries from public funds. In the year of which these are the returns two-thirds only of these salaries were so paid.

30. In 1853 a system of free education, copied in a great measure from that of the New England States, was introduced into this Colony, with, however, this great difference, that in this Island the schools were to be supported chiefly from funds raised by general taxation, instead of by local assessments.

31. In 1866 there were 331 common schools under the management and control of a Board of Education, which also examines and gives certificates to teachers.

32. Local trustees for each school district engage the teachers by the year, and have power to assess the parents for repairs and fuel for the school, and for books, &c. There are also two school visitors, who report to the Board of Education.

33. The whole of the teachers salaries has been paid from the general revenue since 1853, except during the years 1863 to 1867. In 1863 the Legislature, taking into consideration the large proportion of the revenue so appropriated, and also believing that a direct tax on the parents, for the support of their district school, would be beneficial, passed an Act to make the parents in each district contribute about one-third of these salaries. This experiment did not give satisfaction, and it is supposed that in many instances it merely resulted in the diminution by that amount of these salaries. Accordingly, last session, the Legislature reverted to the original system, and the whole of the teachers' salaries is now paid from the general revenue.

34. There is not any legal obligation on parents to have their children educated, and the only penalty for neglect to do so is in case the average attendance falls below that required by law. In such a case, the Government allowance to the teacher is reduced by an amount in the same proportion to the number of scholars short of the required average as the teacher's salary bears to that average, and the parents are required to make up the deficiency.

35. To meet the difficulty arising from the existence of different religious denominations, the law enacts as follows:—"The introduction of the Bible, to be read in all the public schools of this Island of every grade receiving support from the public treasury, is hereby authorized, and the teachers are hereby required to open the school on each school day with the reading of the sacred Scriptures by those children whose parents or guardians desire it, without comment, explanation, or remark thereupon by the teachers, but no children shall be required to attend during such reading as aforesaid, unless desired by their parents or guardians."

36. I enclose a tabular return, showing the receipts and expenditure on account of these schools for 1866, the average attendance, and the cost of educating each pupil, &c. A glance at this return shows, that the results from this voluntary system of free education, supported as it is chiefly by general taxation, can hardly be deemed satisfactory or commensurate with the large expenditure from public funds which it absorbs.

Poor Houses—Hospitals.

37. There is not any public provision for a house for the helpless poor of this Colony, nor for an hospital for the indigent sick. The necessity for such institutions is becoming every year more apparent.

Gaols.

38. In 1865 I furnished full replies to the interrogatories forwarded from the Colonial Office respecting the state of the gaols of this Island. These replies have in common with those of the other Colonies been reported on under Your Grace's direction.

39. I regret that I cannot yet report any considerable improvements in these gaols, but the publicity which that report will give to their defective state cannot fail to attract public attention towards them.

Coal.

40. On March 14, 1866, Mr. Cardwell addressed to me a Circular Despatch respecting coal mines. In reply, I reported that, although from the geological formation it is not improbable that coal does underlie parts of this Island, it is probably at so great a depth as to render its working unremunerative.

41. Although a reward was offered for several years by the Legislature for the discovery of coal, no attempts have been made to bore for it.

42. Such are the principal points, in connexion with the Blue Book of 1866, on which I have to comment. I have dwelt at some length on the effects of the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, in order to show that that repeal has not perceptibly injured the Island Trade, owing to its having occurred at a time when there was a considerable demand for the principal exports of the Island elsewhere.

43. That that Treaty was, during its continuance, a mutual benefit to the United States and to this Island cannot be doubted, and I am confident that a renewal of similar provisions would give general satisfaction in this Colony.

I have, &c.

The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) GEORGE DUNDAS,
Lieut.-Governor.

Encl. in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

Year.	No. of Population between 5 and 16 years.	No. on Roll of Common Schools.	Average daily Attendance.	Per-centage of Attendance to No. on Roll.	No. of Schools open.	Average daily Attendance in each School.	Average on the Roll of each School.	Total yearly cost per pupil on En-rolment.	Total yearly cost per pupil on Attendance.
1866 - - -	24,500	13,970	8,078	58	331	24½	42	s. d. 19 9	£ s. d. 1 14 1

RECEIPTS.

Year.	1. Appropriated from General Revenue for Board of Education and School Visitors.	2. Appropriated from General Revenue for Teachers' Salaries.	3 * Sum required by Law to be made up by District towards Teachers' Salaries.	4. Voluntary or Trustees Assessment for Repairs, Fuel, Books, &c.	Total.
1866 - - -	£ s. d. 301 6 8	£ s. d. 9,125 17 3	£ s. d. 3,041 19 1	No Returns; computed at 4l. per School. £ 1,324	£ s. d. 13,793 3 0

EXPENDITURE.

Year.	Teachers' Salaries.	For Sites and building School Houses.	For Repairs of Schools, Fuel, Books, Maps, &c., calculated at 4l. a School.	Expenses of Board of Education and School visitors.	Total.
1866 - - -	£ s. d. 12,668 13 4	No return -	£ 1,324	£ s. d. 301 6 8	£ s. d. 13,793 3 0

* Except in the years 1863-1867, both 2 and 3, i. e. the whole of the teachers' salaries, were paid from the Public Revenue. No. 3 was an experiment tried from 1863-1867 in order to make parents contribute directly towards the teachers' salaries. In 1867 the Legislature reverted to the system which had prevailed from 1853 to 1863. The whole of these salaries is now paid from Public Revenue.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

NEW-
FOUNDLAND.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor MUSGRAVE to his Grace the Duke of
• BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 171.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Newfoundland,

September 10, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

2. There were no features in this period demanding special notice. The only event of importance to the community was the successful laying of the Atlantic Telegraph, which, although it was at one time believed by some persons that the work would produce little benefit to Newfoundland herself, has already been found most valuable by the commercial community in its effect upon the conduct of their business.

3. The fisheries were not so productive as in the preceding year, nor was the season so generally favourable for agriculture, while recurrence of the potato blight, from which the Colony had been free for some time, destroyed so large a portion of the staple winter supplies of a great number of the people that much distress was caused, producing as its consequence heavy drafts on the Revenue for the relief of the necessitous.

4. The public works or measures of the year presented no striking characteristic. Practically all questions of importance have been held in abeyance during the discussion here and in the neighbouring provinces of the project for their union. It has been felt, if not always acknowledged, that, however this Colony might decide upon the proposal which has been under consideration, the final determination of the question by the sister communities must exercise strong influence on her own affairs, which might render premature any unusual action or legislation.

5. I believe that I am justified in stating that public opinion has been quietly acquiring a much stronger inclination towards union than existed some months ago. The principle involved has almost universally been virtually conceded. It remains to arrive at a concurrence upon the arrangements which would be considered equitable to Newfoundland on her entry into the Confederation.

6. Meantime I am happy to be able to report that the aspect of her affairs has much brightened since the close of last year. The result of the seal fishery in the spring was in some instances remarkably good, and upon the whole has been very fortunate. The cod fishery taken altogether up to this time has been unusually satisfactory, and in many places better than has been known for the last ten years. The summer has been fine, and although drought has prevailed to some extent, I trust the crops will yet be good. It is gratifying to add that there has been no appearance of the potato disease.

7. But in any report upon the present condition and future prospects of the Colony, I should not omit to notice a new element, which promises to exercise important influence on its welfare, in the development of the mineral resources of the country, which there is reason to believe are great. In the past year the exportation of copper ore of a very superior quality was commenced, and at this time more than 2,000 tons have been shipped. On my recent visit to Labrador and parts of the north-east coast of Newfoundland, I stopped at Tilt Cove in Notre Dame Bay, for the purpose of seeing a mine, which is now in most successful operation, and which I trust is only the first of many which will soon be worked with profit to the proprietors and great advantage to the population, in affording new employment which is often so sorely needed in the winter season. I was much interested in what I witnessed. The quality of ore is said to be equal to the best known from any other place. The fine kinds are worth as much as 20% per ton, and the average value of the sales of shipments to England is equal to about 10% per ton. Before the end of this year it is expected that a quantity worth from 80,000£. to 100,000£. will be shipped, and the ore now being extracted is even better than that first obtained. One hundred and seventy men and boys are on the time list, and about 500 people altogether now reside at the settlement, which was not in existence three years ago. Some of the men make as much as 17% per month, the average being from 10% to 12%. Seventeen of the men employed, including the captain of the mine, are Cornish miners, but the remainder are Newfoundlanders. I spoke to several and found them well pleased with their position and circumstances, which are

NEW-
FOUNDLAND. indeed greatly preferable to those in which they had frequently been placed in seasons when the fishery had been unsuccessful, and their subsistence depended wholly on its result. If, as I believe will be the case in a very short time, many other mines equally productive should be worked, it will scarcely be possible to over value the beneficial effect of this new industry upon the circumstances of the labouring population.

8. In all respects, therefore, I trust that the outlooks of the Colony for the future are more cheering than they have been for some years past.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. MUSGRAVE.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

BERMUDA.

No. 6.

BERMUDA.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir FRED. CHAPMAN, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 22.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Bermuda,
May 3, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of the annual Blue Book, together with a Report upon it, written at my request, by Mr. Miles Gerald Keon, the Colonial Secretary, as I myself have not yet been long enough in the Colony to offer any remarks of my own.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRED. CHAPMAN.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

Bermuda, Colonial Secretary's Office,
May 3, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to send to your Excellency for transmission to England one of the duplicate copies of the Blue Book which are required for the Colonial Office, and at the same time, in obedience to your request, I submit a Report on the subject.

2. Revenue and Expenditure.

Your Excellency will observe that the Revenue of last year exceeds that of the previous year by more than 2,000*l.*, while the expenditure is nearly 11,000*l.* less than the expenditure of the year in question. These are great differences for so small a Colony, and bear a large proportion to the total sums that can be raised, or are ordinarily expended here. The cause belongs to some exceptional occurrences of a few years ago. During the civil war in the United States many strangers visited Bermuda and made it their residence for purposes of their own. The habits of this new class of residents were expensive, and a great increase of taxable imports was the consequence.

Another cause producing similar effects was a sense of insecurity among several inhabitants of these islands concerning their investments; they feared, during the troubles of America, that the interest of their capital and the capital itself would be lost, and therefore drew out the interest, and in some cases the principal money also, in the shape of goods for consumption or re-sale in these islands.

The Revenue being thus stimulated by artificial and essentially transient causes was, on the other hand, treated by the Legislature as if the temporary increase of the public wealth had grown from natural, normal, and permanent sources; and accordingly the expenditure soon became greater still. In 1864 the Revenue (from all sources) exceeded 30,000*l.*; and for that year the Legislature, which had not yet fully ascertained the extent of the public income accruing from a moderate tax, kept well within its means, spending little more than 27,000*l.* But next year, in 1865, having seen what 1864 had produced, the Legislature, which had 6,000*l.* less at its disposal than it had in the more opulent twelvemonth, as the subsequent returns proved, voted away upwards of 8,000*l.* more. The Expenditure was 35,000*l.* and the Revenue 24,000*l.* in the year 1865.

This great discrepancy necessitated a loan, and also an increase of the import rate,

which is now five per cent. From 35,000*l.* in 1865 the expenditure has sunk to 25,000*l.* in 1866; while the 24,000*l.* income of the former year has risen to the 26,000*l.* of last year; but this has been under a tax more than twice as heavy, and therefore not in reality one half so productive.

Everybody acquainted with Bermuda now feels and acknowledges that the fictitious prosperity of the time I have alluded to was a great calamity, one of the least evil results of which was an increase of the permanent burdens devolved upon the Colony on account of its apparent and temporary riches.

3. *Public Works.*

The public highways and buildings have been kept in pretty good order, at a cost of 985*l.* for the former, and 388*l.* for the latter.

The sum of 6,000*l.* voted in a former year for a second and smaller lighthouse (at Saint David's Head) to give cross-bearings, and for a better gaol at Hamilton, is yet unexpended, neither of the intended works having been commenced.

The Imperial Government, at its own expense, has completed an electric telegraph between the eastern point of the islands at Saint George and the Governor's residence at Mount Langton, near the centre of them. The line is now being prolonged to Spanish Point, the Admiral's house, from which to the dockyard, westward, there are two miles and a quarter of sea. This is a military telegraph, but the people have the use of it.

The Colony voted 250*l.* in 1864, for a branch about half a mile long by the straight line from Mount Langton to the Town of Hamilton; and undertook to pay thenceforward an annual sum not exceeding 50*l.* to keep this branch in repair.

4. *Legislation.*

The most remarkable laws passed last year by the Colony were the new salary Acts for the Chief Justice, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney General. The English Government having called upon Bermuda to take over these officers for the future upon its own establishment, the Colony undertook, as an exchange for the vested life-interest which they had in their salaries, to pay certain annual sums smaller than the salaries in the case of two of those officers, and for ten years only, with nothing in lieu of the former annual accumulation in one of the cases towards an eventual retiring allowance, and with no provision for the continuance of the service-incomes beyond the 10 years at the same amount, or indeed at all. As this little Colony professes not to give pensions to its higher officers, never having established any fund out of which to provide such burdens, a stranger whom it has been called upon to pay might, if the transaction were left upon its present footing, find, when he was worn out, that there were no resources anywhere available from which to afford him a retirement. Eventual destitution would in this case unavoidably close his years of service, and be both the end and the result of his public labours. Not long since, the Bermuda Legislature suddenly lowered the salary of the police magistrate at Hamilton, although the cost of living had increased. The Secretary of State for the Colonies remonstrated in very strong and emphatic terms against the gross injustice of taking from a public servant the means upon which he had been warranted in calculating, and upon which he had contracted engagements, and arranged his expenditure.

That this oppressive injustice should be successfully persevered in, notwithstanding, is not a tranquillizing circumstance for other public servants.

5. *Education.*

Less and less has been done for education during the last few years. At this moment there is no Education Act whatever in force.

6. *Imports and Exports.*

For the last three years the imports of Bermuda have steadily declined. In 1864 they were 370,400*l.*; in 1865, 200,700*l.*; in 1866, 192,122*l.*

I have, &c.

(Signed) MILES GERALD KEON,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Governor Sir F. E. Chapman, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

BRITISH
COLUMBIA.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

No. 7.

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor SEYMOUR to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 154.)

MY LORD DUKE,

New Westminster, November 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Mainland portion of the Colony for the year 1866.

2. I passed nearly the whole of that period in England. The Colonial Secretary is absent on leave, and so I have called on Mr. Charles Good, the Assistant Colonial Secretary, for a report on the volume I now transmit.

3. I had intended to report on the Blue Book myself, but I found the summer months so fully occupied that I was glad to devolve on others all that could be entrusted to them. I had to take over the affairs of Vancouver Island at a time of particular difficulty, and to make myself acquainted with this addition to British Columbia. Then political changes rendered my presence in the far North desirable. I had but just returned at the end of June from the then nightless regions of our extreme boundary and the magnificent scenery of Queen Charlotte's Island, when I received a telegram from Cariboo stating that the law was utterly powerless at the mines against some five or six hundred men banded together. I proceeded to the spot and have already reported that tranquillity has been restored, but the having to travel about 3,000 miles during the summer months in addition to the usual work, has occupied a considerable portion of my time.

4. I will only now state that I found, on my way to the mines, the farms in the upper country greatly improved. Barkerville, the central town of Cariboo, has acquired a look of solidity and permanency which it had not before.

5. The roads are in excellent order and we drove six in hand from Yale, the head of navigation on the Fraser, into Cariboo, about 400 miles. The journey is full of variety. From Yale to Lytton, for 56 miles, one passes through the fearful gorges, or "cañons," of the Fraser, where it rushes between the perpendicular sides of the Cascade Mountains. The road is sometimes cut through the solid and over-arching rock, at others, built up by scaffolding against a mountain side, hanging some 600 or 700 feet sheer over the river. From Lytton the road follows the less terrible "cañons" of the Thompson for some 35 miles and then rises to the high country of vast prairies, plains, and cornfields. The roadside inns, mostly kept by Frenchmen and Italians, furnish comfortable accommodation and excellent food. The prices are all greatly reduced, and I had no longer, as on my first visit to the mines, to pay 30*l.* a night for the feed of my horses. We posted through in excellent time. The leaders were generally in a hand gallop. The second pair, or "swing horses," were left pretty nearly to choose their own paces, but the wheelers were steady and the break was cleverly worked by the driver with his right foot.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 7.

SIR,

Colonial Secretary's Office, November 28, 1867.

In handing your Excellency the Blue Book for 1866 at this late period I would remark that the increased work in the Colonial Secretary's Office consequent on the union of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, and the difficulty of obtaining some of the necessary returns in consequence of changes in several offices, have been the causes of the unusual delay.

The fact of the union of the Colonies having been anticipated during the whole of the year 1866, and finally carried out in November of that year, had a marked effect on the

general state of the Colony, and produced an amount of uncertainty resulting in a condition of affairs so unsettled as to render it a difficult task to make any positive statements in regard to the condition and prospects of the revenue, the development of our resources, the progress of immigration, or any of the main topics on which it would be desirable more especially to enlarge.

The Blue Book for 1867 will embrace returns from the whole United Colony, and in reporting thereon it will be possible to make a much more satisfactory statement of the condition of the Colony than can be done in the present unsettled state of affairs. There are, however, several points to which I shall endeavour to draw your Excellency's attention as satisfactory proofs of permanent improvement.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue of 1866 amounted to 86,000*l.*, showing a decrease of about 25,000*l.* as compared with that of 1865. This decrease was entirely under the head of Customs, and it is to be accounted for as follows:—The gold export tax, included under the head of Customs receipts, was repealed early in the year, and a loss of 10,428*l.* was thereby sustained, the tax in question having realized that amount in 1865. But the greater part of this decrease was caused by a system of reckless trading introduced in 1865, which resulted in the country being flooded with goods that had to be sold under their original cost in Victoria. There would appear, in fact, to have been no actual diminution of the consumption during 1866, but simply that an undue proportion was imported in 1865, thereby rendering it unnecessary, and in fact impossible with any chance of realizing a profit, to import the usual stock in 1866. The system of buying goods in Victoria on credit, and then hypothecating them to the banks for the amount necessary to cover the customs dues leviable at New Westminster and the freight charges to the mines, was followed by the most disastrous results. Most of these goods were sold on their arrival in the mining regions for any sum that would cover the amount advanced on them, the country was swamped with unsaleable stocks, and almost every firm in the Colony was involved in bankruptcy, a state of affairs which could not fail immediately to affect the Victoria merchant. Hence the commercial depression throughout the two Colonies, which has been variously charged to the imposition of the gold export tax, hostile administration, and to any other cause which the fertile imagination of political opposition could invent other than the true one. From the effect of this state of things the revenue only began to recover at the close of 1866.

It is gratifying, however, to notice that the number of free miners' certificates issued in 1866 exceeded that of 1865 by 1,200, while the general mining receipts were not diminished and gave a return of 4,000*l.*

The amount of revenue realized from trading and other licences was increased in 1866 by some 500*l.*, the rates having been slightly raised by an ordinance of that year. A small reduction took place in the road tolls, but the total sum collected under this head, viz., 16,000*l.*, was highly satisfactory when the reduction in the stocks of goods imported is taken into consideration; these tolls being entirely dependent on the foreign imports passing over the roads in transit to the mines.

The expenditure of the year 1866 was in round numbers 91,000*l.*, and was less by 46,000*l.* than that incurred in 1865. Considerable retrenchment was effected by the reduction of salaries and abolition of certain offices. The amount of public works undertaken was far less than that of the previous year. I propose alluding to this in greater detail under the head of Works and Buildings.

The amount of crime was very inconsiderable during 1866, and a consequent reduction in the expense of bringing prisoners to justice was thus effected, a saving of 1,000*l.* being made in this item alone as against 1865.

The improved state of the public roads rendered the transport of officers on duty much less expensive, and under this head a saving of 1,200*l.* was effected.

The only material increase on any item of expenditure, as compared with the year 1865, was under the head of interest (amounting to an excess of nearly 7,000*l.*) on temporary loans rendered imperative to meet the actual requirements of the Government during the year.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony amounted at the close of the year to about 295,000*l.*, at the commencement of the year that debt amounted to 239,000*l.* In consequence of the falling state of the revenue no important reductions in this debt were practicable in 1866, beyond the ordinary ones for sinking funds of public loans. The union of Van-

BRITISH
COLUMBIA.

Vancouver Island to the mainland largely increased our public debt in 1866 by the addition of the 40,000*l.* Vancouver Island loan, and a temporary loan effected by Governor Kennedy of some 16,000*l.* in 1865-6. No additional revenue, however, has at present accrued to this Government from union, in reality the fact of Victoria having been at the time of union overstocked with goods of every description, and of those goods having been and still being admitted into the mainland free of all duty, has entailed and will entail a very considerable loss of revenue, certainly not less than 20,000*l.*, in 1867, while the revenue collected in Victoria prior to union, in the shape of the real estate tax, ceased shortly after union; so that in point of fact the inhabitants of Vancouver Island will for some time contribute but a fractional portion of the revenue, while the heavy interest on their loans has been shifted to the general revenue. Our present financial condition is therefore worse than it would have been had union not taken place; our liabilities would have been less by the amount of loans taken over, while our revenue would have been greater by the receipts of customs duties on goods imported free of duty since union.

The overdrawn account with the Bank of British Columbia was less by 10,000*l.* at the end of the year than at the beginning, and only 8,000*l.* was raised from other quarters during the year as a temporary loan, while about 2,000*l.* of roads bonds issued in 1863 were redeemed in the latter portion of the year 1866. It is the difficulty of meeting the large amounts required to be regularly remitted to England on account of interest and sinking funds that causes the present financial embarrassment. Were the Colony free to spend within her own limits her actual revenue, viz., some 100,000*l.* per annum, we should be in an absolutely prosperous condition so far as regards our revenue and expenditure, but when so large a sum as 25,000*l.* has to be remitted every year, it becomes a serious consideration, more especially having in view the present loss resulting from union, and the expenditure incurred in compensation for loss of office, passages to England, &c. &c.

Public Works.

The expenditure under this head in 1866 amounted to 25,000*l.*, and was less by 40,000*l.* than in the previous year. The most important work undertaken during the year was the completion of the grand trunk waggon road from Yale (the head of navigation on the Fraser river) to the centre of the mining district of Cariboo by the construction of the unfinished portion of the road from Quesnel to Alexandria, and from Cottonwood to Barkerville, thus making a total length of 375 miles of excellent waggon road through a country full of engineering difficulties, a result of which this young Colony may be justly proud.

A less costly but not unimportant work was the opening up of a route to the newly discovered diggings on the Columbia river, thus clearing the way for the miner and trader to a fresh gold field, which promises to be highly remunerative, and which, in the opinion of some, may at no distant period rival Cariboo.

The remainder of the expenditure under the head of works was mainly incurred in keeping existing roads in repair, a service which entails a yearly cost of over 7,000*l.*

Legislation.

The legislation of 1866 comprised chiefly such laws as were absolutely necessary for the current and ordinary requirements of the community, and were mostly of a commonplace order. The fact of the close proximity of union rendered the Council unwilling to enter very fully into any important measures which might not be suitable to the new order of things, and which would probably have to be repealed or recast in the ensuing session.

Population.

The extensive frontier and seaboard of the Colony, chiefly unsettled, but at the same time to immigration or emigration unobserved, and the migratory and unsettled habits of the mining population, render it a matter of peculiar difficulty to state with any degree of accuracy the exact population of the Colony. The district returns, comprising as they do only what comes under the immediate observation of the magistrate, are obviously far under the mark. It would be a fair computation, however, to state the white population of the mainland in 1866 at 6,000 souls. One thing, however, is certain, that is, that the settled population of the Colony was largely added to in 1866. Agriculture and stock raising made rapid progress in that year, as I shall endeavour to point out presently. The era of resident farming population dates from 1866, from which fact the most beneficial results may be anticipated.

The Native population forms no inconsiderable feature in this return. They must amount at the lowest computation to 40,000 souls, all of whom are more or less producers and consumers. They are engaged in the sale of skins, furs, cranberries, and other commodities, by which foreign capital is introduced into the Colony; and they consume the same kind of food and use the same sort of clothing as the whites, which makes them regular contributors to the revenue. The large customs revenue of the Colony when compared with the white population is thus readily accounted for, since the Natives contribute at least one-third of the receipts under that head.

Agriculture.

But the most important advance yet made in the progress of the Colony has been the rapid development of agriculture, the growth of cereals, and the manufacture of flour from home grown wheat. In early days the Colony was unfortunately described as a barren wilderness, whose only resource was the gold hidden in its inaccessible mountains; it was boldly asserted that it could never become an agricultural country, and that it would for all time have to import its breadstuffs from abroad. It was only during the year 1866 that the ill effects of this belief were finally overcome and the agricultural capabilities of the Colony conclusively established. The facilities for travel afforded by the completion of the waggon roads and other communications have tended gradually to remedy the evil. Settlers have taken up farms throughout the whole course of the roads; large tracts of land have been cultivated and sown with wheat and other cereals with most satisfactory results. Steam and water power grist mills, according to the exigencies of particular districts, have sprung into existence; and home manufactured flour of a superior quality is already taking the place of the imported article, to the permanent advantage of the Colony. Stock raising has also been taken up with vigour and with most encouraging results to those who have embarked in the enterprise.

Lumber and Spars.

A noticeable feature in the development of the resources of the Colony is the impetus lately given to the export of spars and lumber. The coast of British Columbia is studded throughout its length with numerous deep landlocked harbours and inlets, whose sides are densely covered with magnificent timber trees. Until 1866 no effort had been made to create an export of lumber, but it is gratifying to note that in that year two large saw-mills were completed in Burrard's Inlet, the most southerly of the coast inlets, and the export of spars and lumber manufactured from the Douglas fir commenced in good earnest. Of the superior quality of the spars and lumber produced in this Colony there is no question, and a confident hope is entertained that an important and thriving trade in spars and lumber is about to be established. The value of exports under this head in 1866 amounted to 10,000%.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1866 amounted to 298,000% in round numbers, being less than the imports of 1865 by 179,000%. This large decrease resulted, as I have endeavoured to show under the head of Revenue and Expenditure, from the overstock imported in 1865. In illustration of my remarks on the importance of the growth of agricultural industry to the Colony, I would point out that in 1866 the following staples were imported into the mainland alone at a total value of over 100,000% :—

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Flour	16,200 barrels.	18,850
Wheat	5,300 bushels.	1,316
Oats	3,850 sacks.	980
Barley	7,000 "	1,680
Butter	116,000 lbs.	12,800
Cheese	22,000 "	1,000
Bacon and hams	251,000 "	13,000
Lard	107,000 "	3,000
Salt meat	300 barrels.	700
Hay	300 tons.	1,000
Cattle, horses, mules	4,200 head.	40,200
Sheep, pigs, &c.	6,000 "	8,500
Beans	117,000 lbs.	1,300
		£104,316

BRITISH
COLUMBIA.

This Colony is capable of producing or raising the whole of the above without the slightest difficulty, and their value could be thus saved to the Colony. The protection afforded to the farmer by the import duties and cost of freight to the interior amounts to at least 20 per cent.; a ready market at most remunerative prices is always at hand. This condition of affairs offers inducements to a farming population that will certainly be taken advantage of ere long.

The value of exports in 1866 amounted to 43,000*l.* as against 33,000*l.* for 1865, showing an increase in 1866 of 10,000*l.* The principal articles of export are at present furs and lumber; the value of the former was 28,000*l.*, and the latter 10,000*l.* An increase of 13,000*l.* in the value of furs exported in 1866 as against 1865 is to be noted as satisfactory. A large export trade in cranberries has also arisen, but the crop failed in 1866; the exports in 1867 under this head will be considerable.

Prisons and Crime.

The management of the prison at New Westminster is very satisfactory, every attention being given to the health of the prisoners and to the cleanliness of the building. The chain gang is constantly employed out of doors on public works and in cutting firewood for the use of the public offices. The absence of any great amount of crime in so extensive a colony as this, with a widely scattered population and police stations far apart, is most satisfactory. During the year 1866 there was only one case of murder, six of felony, and two or three other offences. This state of affairs is more gratifying when compared with the outrages of daily occurrence in the adjacent American territories.

Hospitals.

Two hospitals, one at Cariboo, the other at New Westminster, sustained partly by Government grant and partly by public donations, were in full operation in 1866. Over 100 patients were relieved, many of them suffering from severe and complicated injuries. These institutions are maintained in a state of considerable efficiency, and are of great importance to the Colony.

Mines and Minerals.

It is almost impossible in the scope of a report of this nature to give even in outline anything like an account of the mining operations of last year.

The total yield of gold during the year has been roughly estimated at 600,000*l.* This perhaps is less than the produce of some previous years; but considering the number of miners engaged, certainly not over 3,000, the average earning of 200*l.* per man a year is satisfactory, and far exceeds any average ever reached either in California or Australia. Prospecting was vigorously carried on, and many new creeks and diggings were opened up. Great hopes are entertained as to the prospects of silver mining in this Colony. During 1866 a fair amount of prospecting was done in the Shushwap district, and specimens obtained from the Cherry Creek mines assayed as much as 1,300 oz. of silver to the ton. Up to the close of the year, however, a sufficient capital to thoroughly develop this branch of mining was not attainable, though the utmost confidence is expressed by those engaged as to their probable success.

Education.

Everything has been done that could reasonably be expected in aid of education. Wherever a school has been established the Government has contributed to the support of the teacher by giving 4*s.* a head a month for each child regularly attending. There are two schools thus assisted at New Westminster, one at Yale, and one at Langley. The system is non-sectarian, and the colonists are satisfied with the aid afforded by Government. There are three private schools at New Westminster, two under the charge of the Roman Catholics, and one under the Church of England.

General Observations.

In reviewing the circumstances of the Colony at the end of the year 1866 as evidenced by the present returns, there appears to be much reason for satisfaction.

Temporary financial difficulties would seem to be the chief evil against which the Colony has to make headway, and even this evil does not appear to be without a remedy, since the economy and reduction which have been vigorously begun, and which the Government is determined to carry out, will no doubt in course of time result in a solution of the difficulty, though not without injuring the status of the Colony. It is present

pressing want by which the Government continues to be embarrassed, and if Her Majesty's Government could only be induced to place at your Excellency's disposal a sum of 50,000*l.*, to be repaid as circumstances would permit without interest, the return of the Colony to a state of financial prosperity would be immediate and lasting.

The despondency among the mercantile community induced by the numerous failures in 1866 had already begun to disappear at the close of the year. Trade was being carried on on a firmer basis, and the reckless system of general credit to unsound men had ceased.

Mining operations were carried on throughout the year with a fair amount of success and in a very hopeful spirit. The belief in the mineral wealth of the Colony was placed on a much firmer footing. The indifference induced by general depression was gradually fading away, and a more hopeful and contented spirit being engendered.

Great strides were made in agriculture and stock raising, thereby commencing the era of a settled population, hitherto the great want of the Colony.

There is little doubt that with ordinary care and application on the part of the colonists the resources of this vast and peculiarly healthy country could be developed twenty-fold; and if faith in the Colony could be restored, there seems to be no doubt as to the result. It only remains to accept the progressive steps made during the year 1866 as evidences of restored confidence and coming prosperity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES GOOD,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency Frederick Seymour.
&c. &c. &c.

AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS AND ST. HELENA.

SIERRA
LEONE.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 8.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor BLACKALL to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 59.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Sierra Leone,
June 5, 1867.

1. I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace, in duplicate, the Blue Book for this Colony for the year 1866.

2. The several returns will evidence the progressive improvement of the Colony, whilst I am happy to be able to state that the lately annexed dependencies of *Sherboro'* and *Bulama* are adding considerably to the Revenue, beyond their own expenditure.

3. Peace prevails both in the Colony itself and in the surrounding countries; and I have every reason to believe that British influence is gradually extending; and the Chiefs are becoming more and more aware of the importance to them of increased intercourse and commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

SAM. W. BLACKALL.
Governor-in-Chief.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

GAMBIA.

GAMBIA.

No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Administrator of the Government to his
Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 32.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Sierra Leone,
August 12, 1867.

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace the Blue Book, in duplicate, for the settlements on the Gambia for the year 1866, with the Acting Administrator's report thereon.

2. I am happy to be able to report to your Grace the pleasing aspect the affairs of the Gambia have assumed; the Revenue is decidedly on the increase; trade and commerce have been prosperous, in defiance of the raids of the Mahommedan Chief Maba, who, as it is rumoured, is now dead; and the Government is on friendly terms with native Chiefs.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. N. YONGE.
Administrator-in-Chief.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 18.)

SIR,

Government House, Bathurst, Gambia,
August 1, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Despatch, No. 37, dated July 11, 1867, and with reference to paragraph two, I have caused a copy of the Blue Book for the Gambia to be made. A second copy for your Excellency I will have prepared and forward by the next mail; my predecessor, Admiral Patey, during whose term of office it was made up, did not make any report thereon. I have however, compared the Blue Books for 1865 and 1866, and from the information I am able to derive from them have drawn up the following brief report, as I was most anxious to transmit it by this packet, believing that you urgently required it for transmission without further delay to the Colonial Office.

Report.

GAMBIA.

Comparative Statement of the value of imports and exports for the years 1865 and 1866 :—

Imports, 1866.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain - - - - -	64,824	18	7
Leeward Coast - - - - -	8,623	15	4
British West Indies - - - - -	401	5	0
France - - - - -	18,383	19	0
Windward Coast - - - - -	9,525	7	4
United States - - - - -	6,430	6	0
1866 - - - - -	108,189	11	3
1865 - - - - -	128,254	12	2

Showing a decrease in 1866 of 20,064*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* compared with the year 1865, as per Colonel d'Arcy's report.

Exports, 1866.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain - - - - -	19,200	13	6
Leeward Coast - - - - -	4,297	12	8
British West Indies - - - - -	1,228	0	0
British North America - - - - -	1,584	4	0
France - - - - -	112,619	6	9
Windward Coast - - - - -	3,995	2	6
United States - - - - -	15,445	4	6
1866 - - - - -	158,370	3	11
1865 - - - - -	133,818	8	4
	£24,551	15	7

Showing an increase of 24,551*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.* which is accounted for by the harvest of ground nuts being still more bountiful than the preceding year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1866 -	15,781	14	9		13,970	17	8
1865 -	10,585	11	9		12,978	5	9
	£ 5,196	3	0		£ 992	11	11

Exclusive of the Parliamentary Grant for 1865 of 4,173*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, and for 1866 of 3,298*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*; shows an increase in the Revenue of 1866, amounting to 5,196*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.*; and an increase in the expenditure of 992*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* The financial state of the Colony may, therefore, be considered as improving, and the prospects of another plentiful harvest will, no doubt, add to its further increase.

Trade.

Trade and commerce have been prosperous, notwithstanding the continuous petty wars amongst the native tribes in the river. The marauding excursions or the Priest and Warrior Chief Maba are most detrimental to the cultivators of the land. His followers principally live on plunder, affecting to despise the agricultural pursuits. Could an effectual check be made on him, much good would ensue to the Colony.

Education.

Wesleyans and Roman Catholics have scholastic establishments; no provisions are made for the education of children of the Established Church with the exception of the garrison school, to which children of civilians are admitted free of charge and encouraged to attend, but the parents avail themselves in very small numbers of the advantages held out to them.

GAMBIA.

Crime.

The prevailing crime is larceny, but most daring burglaries and thefts are committed with great adroitness, which, owing to the small numbers of the police, and on that account their inability to sufficiently protect property, are not easily detected or prevented.

It is difficult to obtain an efficient police force, scarcely any but old soldiers offering for its ranks; the natives being averse to discipline.

His Excellency Colonel G. N. Yonge,
Administrator-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ANTON,
Acting Administrator.

GOLD
COAST.

GOLD COAST.

No. 10.

No. 10.

Not received.

LAGOS.

LAGOS.

No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor BLACKALL to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 22.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Sierra Leone,
June 14, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Grace the Blue Book (in duplicate) for Lagos, with the Administrator's report thereon marked "Separate."

The Revenue of this Settlement appears to be in a satisfactory condition, and the reason assigned, viz., the continuance of peace in all the surrounding countries, is still more encouraging as to the future of Lagos.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAM. W. BLACKALL,
Governor-in-Chief.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(Separate.)

SIR,

Government House, Lagos,
June 4, 1867.

1. I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency, in duplicate, the Blue Book for this Settlement for the year 1866.

2. The returns of Revenue show an increase for 1866 over that of the previous year, resulting from peace being maintained by the tribes in the interior and a consequent increase in the trade of the Settlement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER,
Administrator.

His Excellency Colonel Blackall, Governor-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.

No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir P. E. WODEHOUSE, K.C.B., to His Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 117.) Government House, Cape Town,
MY LORD DUKE, November 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward for your Grace's consideration the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866; and should have been glad if it had been in my power to make a more favourable comparison of the transactions of the year with those of 1865, than I now feel justified in submitting to you.

Indeed, it may be truly said, that the agricultural and commercial depression from which we had been so long suffering, continued without improvement during the whole year, while the seasons, on which this Colony is so terribly dependent, were still very unfavourable. Under these circumstances the revenue, although very slightly larger than that of 1865, fell far short of the Expenditure; and the Government was again driven to borrow money for the purpose of meeting its current expenses. Public works were almost entirely stopped; and the consequent want of employment, added to scarcity of food, led to a great increase of crime in the rural districts, and filled the gaols with prisoners convicted of cattle and sheep stealing.

The Session of Parliament was in this year unusually late, owing to its having been delayed until all the elections arising out of the annexation of British Kaffraria to the Cape in the month of April, had been completed. When the two Houses met, their attention was almost exclusively devoted to the state of the finances, and to the necessity for restoring the equilibrium between the revenue and expenditure. In the House of Assembly, a Select Committee was appointed, which brought up a report urging very sweeping reductions of the public establishments and institutions; and this report was, before the close of the Session, strongly recommended by both Houses to the consideration of the Government. But, notwithstanding this recommendation, it became abundantly clear that the Houses did not desire these reductions, and that the people of the Colony were determined not to be deprived of the institutions to which they had become accustomed; although they were very reluctant to provide for their maintenance by additional taxation. Accordingly, when the subject was revived in the Session of this year, many of the reductions that had been suggested, were peremptorily set aside; and such as were adopted were wholly insufficient to affect in any material degree the balance of the finances.

Still, however, no additional taxation could be attempted. The Legislature contented itself with postponing payment of some of its debts, in an unobjectionable manner, and trusting to the arrival of better times.

Happily it would appear as if their expectations were likely to be realized. The course of the seasons during the present year has been favourable throughout; the condition of the country from one end to the other is spoken of in the highest terms; and the harvest now in progress is expected to be most abundant.

Undoubtedly a change in this direction was greatly needed; for the state of poverty and misery into which the lower orders were fast sinking, was becoming the cause of great anxiety. Our excessive dependence on one article of production, wool, is very hazardous; and I am glad to see that attention is more and more given to experiments in the growth of silk and cotton. I am not sanguine as to the profits to be derived from the latter; but it will, indeed, be most fortunate for our Colonists, if they succeed in establishing an important export of silk.

The condition of the Native Tribes, politically speaking, may fairly be said to have been satisfactory during the year. Numerous thefts of stock were undoubtedly committed by them; but I believe these to have been attributable in a very great degree to the prevailing distress, and to have been wholly devoid of any political character. And I am confirmed in this belief by the very rapid decrease of crime that has already resulted from more favourable seasons.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) I have, &c.
P. E. WODEHOUSE.
Governor.

NATAL.

No. 13.

NATAL.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor KEATE to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 39.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Natal,

August 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace the Blue Book for Natal for 1866. I am informed that its completion has been delayed by its having been found necessary to send back to the magistrates, for correction by the Field Cornets, by whom they had been collected, all the agricultural returns.

2. Having been scarcely three months in the Colony, I am unable to add any report on its condition and prospects. I regret this the more as I find that no such report has accompanied the transmission of this compilation for some years past. I trust to be able to make up for this to some extent by including a review of the history and transactions of those years in the report which it will be my duty to prepare at the proper time in connexion with the next annual Blue Book.

3. I beg leave to call your Grace's attention to the report of the Acting-Superintendent of Education, on the Schools of the Colony for the past year, and more particularly to that of the Colonial Engineer upon the present state of the Natal Harbour Works, copies of which I have annexed.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ROBT. W. KEATE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

encl. 1 in
No. 13.

Enclosure 1 in No. 13.

REPORT of the ACTING SUPERINTENDENT of EDUCATION on the SCHOOLS in the COLONY of NATAL
for the YEAR 1866.

1. Sixty-seven schools were in operation during the year 1866.
2. Adopting the classification of 1865:—

Class 1.—Schools maintained and managed by Government.

High School, Maritzburg.
Government School, Maritzburg.

High School, Durban.
Government School, Durban.

Class 2.—District Schools with a grant of 80l. a-year.

Greytown.

Weenen.

Class 3.—Public Schools with a grant of 70l. a-year.

The Berea.
Sydenham.

Verulam.
Pinetown.*

Class 4.—Public Schools with a grant of 50l. a-year.

Wesleyan Infant School, Maritzburg.
St. Andrew's Infant School, Maritzburg.
Roman Catholic School, Maritzburg.
Richmond.
Wesleyan Juvenile, Durban.
Wesleyan Infant School, Durban.

Addington.
New Germany.
Isipingo.
Ladysmith.
Victoria.

Class 5.—Public Schools with a grant of 36l. a-year.

Chapel Street, Maritzburg.
Fox Hill.
Malton.
New Hanover.
Clairmont.

Lower Umkomanzi.
Ifafa.
Umhlali.
New Guelderland.
Mount Moreland.

Class 6.—Public Schools with a grant of 25l. a-year.

Byrnetown.
Westville.
Lower Umzinto.

Sinquasi.
Inanda.
Nooitgedacht.

* The 30l. additional is for a training school.

*Class 7.—Public Schools with a grant of 18*l.* or 16*l.* a-year.*

Little Umhlanga (1).	Ezinkombine.
Little Umhlanga (2).	Little Tugela.
Illovo.	Lower Tugela.
Umtwalume.	

*Class 8.—Adult Evening Schools with a grant of 20*l.* or 10*l.* a-year.*

Kelly's, Maritzburg.	Doig's, Durban.
	Angus's, Verulam.

Class 9.—Itinerant Teachers.

J. C. van der Craght.	P. Corver.
A. Jansen.	E. W. Cyrus.
H. Meerdink.	H. Heath.
F. G. E. Meyer.	F. Walton.
J. H. Sheridan.	J. Vogel.
E. H. Doyle.	K. J. Fischer.
P. Donk.	E. Scott.
J. T. Hut.	Ch. F. Schmidt.
J. de Jongh.	G. C. A. van Dam.
A. L. Jansen.	

3. The number of scholars in attendance during the year 1866 was 1,785; of these, 1,107 were boys and 678 girls. The average daily attendance throughout the Colony was 1,339, and the average attendance at each school 20.

4. During the year 1866, the Educational Department has issued 2,650 books, 32 wall maps, 637 copy books, 21 wall tablets (sets). Of these 1,946 books, 637 copy books, 3 wall maps, were sold at cost price; the rest were attached to the schools. The amount returned to the Treasury for the sale of books was 57*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*

5. The amount expended on education during 1866 was:—

	£	s.	d.
On the establishment	-	1,336	15 7
Exclusive of establishments	-	2,932	1 2
Rents	-	226	0 0
Total	-	£4,494	16 9

6. The amount received by the Treasury on account of education was:—

For school fees	-	605	12 6
For sale of books	-	57	2 2
Total	-	£662	14 8

7. The sums supplied by private persons for education during 1866 were

3,073*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* Hence:—

Money supplied by Government	-	4,494	16 9
Money supplied by private persons	-	3,073	14 9
Total	-	£7,568	11 6

is the amount expended in the Colony on education in public schools during 1866.

8. If from this total	-	7,568	11 6
be subtracted the sum paid into the Treasury	-	662	14 8
the remainder	-	£6,905	16 10

will fairly represent the cost of public education for 1866.

9. There were 76 teachers employed and 1,785 scholars taught, and the expense was 6,905*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*; hence the cost of each teacher, on an average, was nearly 91*l.*, and of each scholar, 3*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

10. The returns from the public schools for the past year furnish ground for congratulation and for hope, when it is remembered that the Colony has not yet emerged from the late commercial crisis.

11. In 1864, the daily average attendance throughout the Colony was 20.5; in 1865, it was 22.2; in 1866, it was 20.0; on the other hand, the support in money from private sources was 3,090*l.* in 1864; 3,061*l.* in 1865; and 3,073*l.* in 1866. These figures seem to show that the colonists generally are not inclined (whatever else they give up) to give up the education of their children.

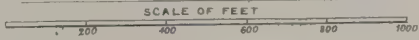
12. During the year the High School at Pietermaritzburg was removed to the handsome rooms lately built by the trustees of the collegiate institution, and leased by them to the Government. The gain to the masters and scholars has been great in convenience, air, and general comfort. In the grounds, horizontal, parallel, and leaping bars have been set up in accordance with the taste for athletic exercises at home and here.

The master, Mr. Calder, is about to return to England, and it will be no easy task to supply his place. Mr. Calder brought with him the skill of an expert in the modern science of teaching. He introduced and maintained in the High School a discipline of which the quiet order and self-respect of the scholars is at once the proof and the reward. His skill in imparting accurate knowledge, and his power of "working up" his pupils are well known, and will be recognized by the pupils themselves only the more fully the older they grow. In selecting a successor to Mr. Calder it is worthy of consideration whether, with a view of maintaining a superior class of education for the children of the colonists within the

PLAN OF
HARBOUR OF PORT NATAL

SHewing VARIOUS PLANS PROPOSED & PARTIALLY
CARRIED OUT FOR INCREASING THE DEPTH OF WATER OVER THE BAR

Soundings in Feet reduced to Low Water Spring Tides
The Soundings in Black Figures are those given in M^r Dayman's Survey
Those in Red have been recently taken



(Signed) *Peter Paterson*
Col. Engineer 17th July 1867.



NATAL.

Colony itself, the Government would not be justified in proposing an increase of the salary of the Head Master.

13. A High School has been opened at Durban by Mr. Russell, a gentleman whose services were secured to us by the Superintendent of Education. Opened in June, the school numbered 19 in December; and there is but one opinion of the energy, skill, and temper with which Mr. Russell has so well commenced. The Government will shortly have to consider whether the school shall continue at a maximum of 30 scholars, or expand with the demands of the town of Durban for this class of education, in which case provision must be made for additional masters and for suitable buildings.

14. During the past year the Government took occasion to act on a suggestion left by the Superintendent, and to enforce prepayment of fees in the four schools which are under its direct control. This was the easier at Durban, as the school was just opened. In the High School at Pietermaritzburg the results of this change are worthy of remark. This school, from the kind of education given, has felt more than others the severity of the times, and has declined from an average of 50 in 1865 to an average of 40 in 1866; nevertheless, the payment in fees has risen from 330*l.* 8*s.* in 1865 to 415*l.* in 1866. The same results are not to be looked for in the two Government schools. In them the Government has always permitted some children to be entered free, preferring to train up a useful citizen at a light cost now rather than to punish a bad citizen at a heavy cost hereafter.

15. From the towns arise demands from time to time for aid to schools, with which demands it is not possible for the Government, with the means at its disposal, to comply; at the same time it is difficult to see why, within the same town, some schools should be receiving aid, while others, perhaps of equal need and merit, have none. With this exception, the money voted for the purpose of education, added to private subscriptions, seems still fairly to supply the demand for public education in the Colony.

16. As regards scholarship, the public schools are, generally speaking, in a fair condition. Spelling, reading, writing, a little arithmetic for daily use, a little history, geography, and grammar—these seem to be all the subjects which can be taught in schools which most of the scholars leave by the time they are fourteen years old. Within this range, however, there is room for improvement. For instance, in reading, it is possible to make the scholar mind not only the letters and words of his sentence, but the sense of it too; nor should any child, after a fair time spent at school, be unable to answer ordinary questions about the Colony in which he lives, the name of the nation to which he belongs, the governor of that nation, or her representative in the Colony. But while in some instances there is no doubt room for more intelligence and thought, there are schools among us in which the teacher, while duly maintaining the mere drill and drudgery of learning, has succeeded admirably in making the scholars think and take notice of the facts of daily life about them. The moral tone throughout is healthy. There can be no doubt of the anxiety of all the teachers to do their best; and there exists, almost universally, a good and friendly feeling between them and their scholars. Within the nine months which have passed since the Superintendent left the Colony, there has not been made a single complaint to the Government against any public teacher, nor within the same time have any serious troubles arisen between the teachers on the one hand and the committees, parents, or scholars on the other.

T. WARWICK BROOKS,

Acting Superintendent of Education.

Educational Department, Pietermaritzburg,
16th February 1867.

ed. 2 in
No. 13.

Enclosure 2 in No. 13.

REPORT ON THE PORT NATAL HARBOUR WORKS, BY THE COLONIAL ENGINEER.

In order to embrace all the subjects referred to in my letter of instructions, and some others which I think it desirable to include, I have divided my report into the following heads, viz. :—

- 1st. The local peculiarities of the harbour.
- 2nd. The plan hitherto adopted.
- 3rd. The action of the teredo, and other causes detrimental to the durability of the work.
- 4th. The best method of proceeding with the work in future, and the length of time necessary to complete the work so far as to cross the northern channel.
- 5th. The effects of the works so far as they have gone, and the probable results of carrying out the north pier sufficiently to close up permanently the present northern channel.
- 6th. The plans suggested for improving the harbour, by works within the bay or inner harbour, and suggestions for such improvements as may be advantageous.

1st. The local peculiarities of the harbour.

The harbour of Port Natal consists of a large land-locked basin, with a total water area of about 4,000 acres, of which, however, only 80 to 85 acres have sufficient depth to be available as anchorage ground for even small craft, the remainder having only from one to three feet or thereabouts of water at high tide, and the greater part being entirely bare at low water.

By reference to the plan of the harbour appended hereto, it will be seen that the deep water lies along the northern side of the bluff, called the Bluff Channel, and from the entrance along the inner side of the sand-spit as far as the railway wharf, or rather above it, which latter channel is called the Custom House Channel.

The outlet of this inner harbour or basin lying between the point of the sand-spit and the bluff, is about 367 yards across, and has a sectional area of between 1,800 and 1,900 square yards at high water springs, the rise and fall of tide at spring being about six feet.

About 1,000 yards to seaward of this outlet lies the bar of Port Natal, extending in a long curved line from the rocky foul ground lying around the outer end of the bluff, right round into shoal water, to the northward of the site of the present north pier of the harbour works. This bar is formed of sand washed backwards and forwards by the conflicting action of the winds, tides, and currents, and more especially by the heavy rollers which set in from the south-east after there has been heavy weather to the southward and eastward of the Natal coast.

When these rollers occur, the result is always to cause the bar to shoal up, whilst a continuance of easterly and north-easterly winds cause it to deepen again.

The sand-bar is said to rest upon a ledge of rocks or upon rocky patches, but this has not been correctly ascertained, and a depth of 24 feet of water has been found on the bar, whilst the lead showed the bottom to be still sandy. The dotted blue lines on the accompanying plan show the direction in which the ebb tide at present runs. It will be seen that it sets along the inner side of the sand-spit, nearly at right angles to the outlet of the harbour, striking the bluff shore; it is then reflected through the outlet in the direction indicated, expending and losing a great part of its velocity when it issues beyond the guiding pier A B, erected by Mr. Milne on the extremity of the sand-spit, and which, even in its present unfinished state, has had a considerable effect in guiding the ebb more directly on the bar than it previously did. Still this pier is too short to throw the force of the ebb tide upon the bar, more especially as from its course the ebb impinges upon the guiding pier at a considerable angle instead of running parallel with it. When there has been a prevalence of south-westerly winds, or when heavy rollers from the south-west have occurred, the ebb tide has not sufficient force to scour away the sand deposited upon the bar, it therefore creeps along shore to the northward, and opens out a channel across the northern end of the bar, which is then the only one available for shipping, until a recurrence of easterly and north-easterly winds washes away the sand upon the bar, and opens out the main channel, when the ebb ceases to act upon the northern channel, which then silts up. This northern channel, marked C C on the plan, is a very inconvenient one from its position and the comparatively small depth of water in it, the average depth when it is open varying from about 11 to 13 feet at high water.

The object therefore sought to be obtained in the construction of harbour works is to direct the full force of the ebb tide straight over the bar and opposite to the outlet of the harbour, so as to deepen the channel through the bar, and afford to vessels a safe and easy means of entering and leaving the port.

2nd. The plan hitherto adopted.

It was with the object stated in the concluding paragraph of the foregoing head of report that a plan was prepared and partially carried out by Mr. Milne, C.E., in which he proposed to construct a stone pier, extending from the end of the sand-spit for a length of about 2,000 feet, and another of about 800 feet in length, extending from the bluff nearly at right angles to the former, with the intention of forming guiding walls for the ebb tide. Only a portion (about 1,200 feet), however, of the northern pier has been constructed, and even this has had, as I have stated, a very beneficial effect in tending to throw the ebb more directly upon the bar.

The work, however, was discontinued by Government in 1857, for reasons stated in the despatch of Lieutenant-Governor Scott to H. M. Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 9th November 1857, by whom the whole question of the improvement of the harbour was referred to Captain Vetch, R.E., of the Harbour Department of the Admiralty, the author of the plan of the present harbour works. Captain Vetch considered Mr. Milne's plan as too contracted, and prepared that upon which I am now called to report.

It is to be regretted that, before Captain Vetch was requested to prepare plans for these works, arrangements were not made for a careful personal survey and report by a competent Civil Engineer, setting forth all the circumstances of the case and affording the detailed information necessary to enable an engineer (himself wholly unacquainted with the locality) to design such works as, in point of efficiency and economy, would be best suited to the requirements of the Colony and to the local peculiarities of the harbour.

Had this been done, and the proper data laid before Captain Vetch and Mr. Abernethy, and had the former been made clearly aware of the fact that, when the water over the bar was sufficiently deepened to admit of large vessels crossing it, there would be no necessity for a sheltered anchorage ground in the outer bay, as the natural anchorage lies in the inner basin, which only requires a moderate amount of dredging from time to time to render it all that is to be desired for such a purpose, I cannot believe that he would have proposed the enclosure of the large area provided for by the present plans, nor can I think that either Mr. Abernethy or Captain Vetch would have recommended the adoption (at least without considerable modification) of a plan which, although successful at Blythe Harbour, was carried out there under such totally different natural and engineering peculiarities, as to afford no criterion for its success in Natal, and which has signally failed elsewhere.

I am of opinion that, owing doubtless to a misconception of the local circumstances, caused by want of sufficiently accurate data, the present plan of the Harbour Works is erroneous both in general arrangement and in its mode of construction. The chief errors I consider to be as follows, viz. :—

1st. The area proposed to be enclosed between the piers is much too large. This involves not only a considerable increase in the extent and consequent cost of the north pier, but is a positive injury to the utility of the proposed work, inasmuch as this large outer basin, by allowing the expansion of the ebb tide as it issues from the comparatively narrow channel between the sand-spit and the bluff, materially checks its velocity, and thereby lessens its effect upon the bar. Besides, a considerable portion of this enclosed area will inevitably silt up, and so become useless as anchorage ground unless constantly dredged; in proof of which I may state, that the foreshore immediately within the northern pier has already advanced very considerably since this work was commenced. The silting up of a portion of this outer harbour would be an absolute advantage, in so far as, by decreasing and confining the water area, the tide passing through it would have less room to expand, and would therefore travel with greater velocity; but this effect could not certainly have been contemplated as one of the results of Captain Vetch's design, or otherwise why should he not have kept his north pier nearer to the spit. In making the area of the outer basin so large, the object Captain Vetch appears to have had in view was to allow the waves entering the harbour to expand and lose their force, but I think this could be effected by a different arrangement of the piers, without running into the error of sacrificing the greater part of the effect of the tidal ebb upon the bar.

2nd. The outer ends of the piers are so placed, that if carried out as designed they would be almost broadside on to the heavy seas which frequently occur, and the weight and velocity of which are such as to require a very much stronger fabric than the present piers to resist their force when thus exposed to their full fury.

NATAL.

3rd. The entrance of the harbour is placed in the wrong direction, as with the heavy rollers which constantly occur, it would be difficult for vessels to run in between the piers without being exposed broadside on to the full force of the waves.

4th. The south pier is placed near the outer or seaward edge of a reef of rocks, which extends a considerable distance from the bluff, and it is so placed as to be exposed to the full dynamic force of the waves, which, grounding upon the edge of the reef, change their character from simple undulations to waves of progression immediately to seaward of the pier, and so strike it with their full weight and velocity; the result of which, as has been repeatedly evinced since the works were commenced, is that as soon as this pier has been advanced to a certain point about 400 feet from the landward end it is knocked to pieces by the sea, which not only has swept away the unfinished end, but has made clean breaches through it, smashing the timber framing and casing, and throwing up the stone filling in a reef to leeward of the work.

The remedies for the errors I have pointed out, based doubtless upon erroneous conceptions of the circumstances, and which more accurate information would have prevented, would have evidently been these:—

1st. To have commenced the north pier somewhere about the point E (*vide* accompanying plan), and carried it out in the direction E F G, by which it would have been very much sheltered from the heavy rollers by the bluff reef, whilst it would have contracted the basin, and been more effective in guiding the ebb tide over the bar.

2nd. To have placed the south pier at or near the inner or leeward side of the reef, by which means, the seas being broken up in their passage over the shallow reef, their percussive force would be nearly expended before they reached the pier.

3rd. To have altered the direction of the south pier, as shown by the letters H J K, so that its outer extremity should have rather overlapped the end of the north pier, whereby the heavy rollers would have been less likely to take a vessel entering the harbour broadside on and to drive her against the north pier; and this overlapping would also, I believe, have caused a great deal of the sand now brought in from the south-west to be swept away to the northward of the harbour, and clear of its entrance.

4th. To have altered the pier heads to some such form as represented by the letters F G J K.

But even had these alterations in the general plan been all adopted, still I do not consider that the system of construction is, or can be, adapted to meet the circumstances under which the works are placed, without very considerable alterations.

In his anxiety to carry out his large and comprehensive scheme at a cost within the resources of the Colony to undertake, Captain Vetch has adopted a design which is quite unsuited in itself to the locality and circumstances, and the estimate and contract for which are based upon prices so wholly inadequate, that I am surprised that any experienced engineer could have ever supposed the work could be executed for anything like the amount stated, unless indeed, he was,—as almost appears to be the case from some remarks made by Captain Vetch in his letter to Mr. James Abernethy, dated 8th July, 1859,—under the impression that Kafir, at 9*d.* per day, were equal to European mechanics in skill and industry.

3rd. The action of the “teredo,” and other causes detrimental to the durability of the work.

Whether creosoting is or is not a comparatively perfect means of preventing the destruction of timber exposed to the action of the sea from the ravages of the teredo and other animal agencies, and from general decay, has been a matter of much debate. In the case of the timber supplied for the Natal Harbour Works, the question has been undeniably decided in the negative.

The works were only commenced in 1861, and already almost every pile, and other piece of timber exposed to the sea, has been more or less injured by the teredo and limnoria.

In June, 1864, Captain Gordon, R.E., and myself, were commissioned to examine and report to the Colonial Government upon the extent to which the timber was affected by the teredo. After a careful investigation, we reported that, although the teredo had certainly attacked the timber, it had not, so far, caused any extensive or serious injury, but that we were unable to say to what amount, and with what rapidity such injury might thereafter extend, although, from the fact that when the teredo and penetrated a short distance into the wood it appeared to die, probably from the effects of the creosote, we were of opinion that the process would be a slow one. Since then, however, the destructive action of the teredo has increased and extended with a rapidity which has surprised me. Recent careful examinations have proved that the piles, cills, and other timbers exposed to the action of the sea, are completely riddled, so much so that in many places those portions of the timbers exposed between wind and water are mere shells, and the frames appear to be chiefly supported by the stone filling.

These destructive results are not confined to such timbers only as have been badly or imperfectly creosoted, or have been longest in the water. I find all the timbers exposed to the sea are more or less affected, although, probably from being of better quality, or more thoroughly impregnated with creosote, some timbers are in a much sounder state than others. I may here state, however, that I firmly believe a large portion of the timber supplied for the Harbour Works has never properly undergone the process of creosoting, and that in many cases the creosote has only penetrated but a very short distance from the surface.

It is evident, therefore, that the destruction of the timber framing and casing is from this cause alone, a mere question of a few years; and that it is hopeless to expect to construct any marine work, dependent upon such timber for its stability, which shall last beyond, say, ten years.

In addition to the destructive effects of the teredo, there is another cause which is detrimental to the durability of the work.

In Mr. Abernethy's plan, the panel pieces or gridirons, which fill in the lower part of the spaces between the frames, are chiefly held in their places by the pressure of the stone filling, and, as these panel pieces are placed inside the main timbers of the frames, they have no bearing against anything but the loose rubble stone to resist the impact of the sea, and the result has been that in heavy weather the stone behind them is frequently displaced, and they are driven in and knocked to pieces,

or, in many instances, actually sawn across by the friction caused by the sea rubbing them against the angles of the stone filling.

A large number of the panels have been either entirely or partially knocked away, and the stone filling more or less washed out at the gaps in the work thus caused.

4th. The best method of proceeding with the work in future, and the length of time necessary to complete the work so far as to cross the northern channel.

It appears that the problem now set for me by the Colonial Government is not the general question which is the best plan and mode of constructing Harbour Works or Piers so as to deepen permanently the entrance to the harbour, but what is the best method of securing the work already done, and of extending the north pier sufficiently to close the northern channel, which, it is estimated, will require the north pier to be extended about 1,000 feet beyond its present length. Had I been called upon to state generally what I consider the best arrangement and design for the works, I should have recommended a different arrangement and position for the piers than the present ones, and that they should be constructed wholly of stone, tipped in from a timber staging, and carried to a height of only a few feet above high water, the top being protected by ashlar casings, or perhaps cast-iron plates, filled in with rubble concrete.

The question, however, which I have to answer, is not which is the best mode of designing such works as will be most beneficial and effective in removing the bar, but what are the best and most economical means of rendering effective the work which has been already partially carried out for that purpose, and of extending it.

To this subject I have given my best attention, and have bestowed much anxious thought and study upon it, ever since the Harbour Works were placed under my charge.

It was evident to me, as it must have been to any professional man who had opportunities of seeing the works in progress, whilst being carried on by Mr. Thos. Jackson, the late contractor, that the system of putting together on land the bulky and weighty frames then used, and then lowering and fixing them bodily in their places, was cumbersome and difficult to execute even in average good weather, and when there was any sea running, quite impossible. Many frames broke away when lowered into the sea and before they could be properly secured, and it frequently happened that for weeks together not a single frame could be fixed, and so the work was brought to a standstill. The mode of fixing the panel pieces was also, as I have pointed out in the preceding paragraph, very defective, and, therefore, even before I had any supposition that the works would ever be placed under my charge, I came to the conclusion that very considerable modifications in the manner of framing and fixing the timber work, must be introduced before they could be successfully carried out.

At first, however, I determined upon recommending merely a modification of the original system, viz., to make the two main side timbers of each frame piles driven about 8 or 10 feet into the sand, and to connect them by top and centre braces and diagonals as the present frames are constructed,—in short, to build up the frames piecemeal in their places, instead of attempting to fix them bodily, and to fix them firmly in the sand, instead of merely letting them rest upon it, which would have the three-fold object of enabling them to be much more easily and rapidly constructed, of giving them a firm hold of the ground and a stability independent of the stone filling, and of preventing them sinking, and rocking or twisting out of their places, by the scouring away of the sand below and around them. I also designed a mode of framing and fixing the panels between the frames which would admit of their being more easily fixed, and render them more secure.

I even proposed a report and drawings in consonance with these proposed modifications so far back as June, 1866, but before submitting them to the Government, I determined to examine more closely the extent and progress of the ravages of the teredo in the timber *in situ*.

The result I have already stated. It was, therefore, evident that I could not honestly recommend to the Government any plan wholly dependent upon the durability of the timber for its efficiency.

I then considered the propriety of recommending that the continuation of the pier be carried out entirely as a bank of rubble or “Pierre Perdu,” tipped from wagons running on a timber staging. I found, however, on calculation, that this would require so large an amount of stone, that the progress would be very slow and comparatively expensive, and a large portion of the timber already purchased for the work would be useless. I have, therefore, resolved to recommend to the Government the following, as the best mode I can suggest for rendering the present portion of the north pier secure, and for carrying out the work for the further distance required as rapidly and economically as possible.

I have found it necessary to remove temporarily all the top-framing and planking of the present pier, owing to the space between the centre braces, upon which the tramway for conveying the stone is laid, and the top braces being so small that stones of any size could not be carried in the trucks along the works. By removing this top work, not only can stones of any size be conveyed along and tipped into the pier, but a double line of rails can be laid down, so that the work of stone-filling can be carried on much more expeditiously than it otherwise could.

I cannot see any object in replacing this upper portion of the work, which appears to be only intended for the purpose of a promenade, and is therefore quite unnecessary, as all the actual construction of the work has to be carried on at the level of the tramway; and it involves a great waste of timber, and is, moreover, a positive source of weakness to the work, presenting, as it does, a large surface for the sea and wind to act detrimentally upon.

It is one main feature in all, or almost all, modern works of this description constructed for the improvement of harbours, and which are not also required for purposes of traffic, to keep the top of the work as low as possible, in fact, only sufficiently high above the water to allow of workmen and others passing along the top in safety, whereby less resistance is offered to the impact of the sea, the waves being only sufficiently checked to break their force, while the mass of water sweeps over the breakwater instead of striking against it. I would, therefore, recommend that the whole of the top-framing be permanently removed, and the two side pieces of the frame cut down to about 3 ft. 6 ins. above the level of the tramway. At this height I would connect them by wrought-iron rods, or by waling-pieces of timber, so that they should form handrails for the protection of the men who may from time to time

NATAL.

be employed on the works. This will economize a very large quantity of valuable timber which is now worse than useless, and which can be made available for the extension of the work and for other purposes.

Where the sides of the work are more or less open from the destruction of the panel pieces, I am driving sheet-piling, well bolted and secured to walings and the remaining parts of the panels, so as to close in the gaps sufficiently to retain the stone filling. As these gaps are being filled up, the stone-packing is being completed as rapidly as possible. At present, about 85 to 90 tons of stone per diem are being tipped in, but when I get the arrangements now being made to facilitate the transport of the stone carried out, I hope to be able to deposit not less than an average daily quantity of about 150 tons in the works.

At present, as the part of the pier now being filled up is not exposed to any violent action of the sea, I am using up for its filling all the small stone and waste stuff of the quarry, retaining the larger and better stone for the more advanced portion of the pier. When the present pier is filled in up to the level of the tramway, I recommend that the outer part, at least, be planked over, to retain the stone-filling in its place, and prevent its rolling about and so destroying the timber.

The plan upon which I recommend the pier to be extended, is as follows:—To construct a timber-staging, formed of piles well driven down into the sand, and connected by cross ties and continuous walings and diagonal braces; upon this staging a double line of rails would be fixed to carry the stone trucks.

From this staging, small stone and quarry rubbish to be tipped as rapidly as possible, and allowed to take its own slope, and spread so as to form a hard substance to prevent the sand scouring away on the line of the work. Over this, again, larger stone to be tipped in to form a bank or mole of rubble, the largest stones being always kept for the outer sides of the mole until the work reaches to about four feet below low water, the lower part of the staging being buried in and secured by the rubble as the work proceeds.

When this rubble mole has settled down and taken something like its proper slopes and form, I then propose to close in the spaces between the sets of upright piles, carrying the tramway to a height of about three feet above high water by timber panels strongly secured to the piling, and fill in this space with stone rubble, the outer sides of which would be carefully packed with good sized stones, so as to make it as firm and secure as possible. The top of this filling to be cased over with a grating of timber, to prevent the stone being driven out or rolled about by the sea.

By this plan, a good solid firm base would be obtained, and the sand prevented scouring away, to the injury of the work. The stonework would, after a time, assume its natural slope, and so become permanently fixed, the superstructure could be expeditiously carried out, a large quantity of the timber now on the works be made available, thereby economizing stone, and the work could be extended as rapidly as would be consistent with its stability.

After the work was completed, and as circumstances would admit, stone could be tipped from the stage on both sides of the timber superstructure, so as gradually to extend the breadth of the work, and case in the timber framing, and thus, by the time the timber had become so decayed as to be no longer able to retain the stone-filling, they would no longer be required, being replaced by the outer and additional rubble-work of the mole, of the upper part of which the timber superstructure would in the first place form the nucleus. In the same manner, stone could be tipped along the outer sides of the present part of the pier, so as to case in its woodwork. The advantages of this arrangement are, that the cost of skilled labour will be very materially reduced and convict labour employed as largely as possible, the work can be carried on in almost any weather, and can be advanced with considerable rapidity.

The materials already on the ground, and paid for, can be employed to a considerable extent, and the work can be carried on and extended just in proportion as the finances of the Colony will admit, as, with the exception of the staging and superstructure, which will require very little skilled labour in comparison to the present system, the work can, if necessary, be carried on almost wholly by convict labour, and, however little may be done in tipping in stone at any time, still every stone tipped in will be a permanent addition to the work, so that, if it be found successful in improving the harbour, it can be gradually extended and strengthened.

In reference to the direction of the pier, I propose a slight alteration in the curve, so as to bring the line of the work more at right angles to the direction of the rollers.

The length of time which will probably be required to extend the work upon the plan proposed, so far as to close up the north channel, will be chiefly dependent upon the rapidity with which the stone can be supplied, and estimating the daily quantity at 150 tons, which seems to be as much as the Railway Company can conveniently carry, I calculate that it will require about $2\frac{1}{2}$ years to carry out the work for about 1,000 feet, the length proposed, making due allowance for bad weather and other contingencies. After which, the casing-in of the timber work with stone, can be proceeded with according to circumstances. With reference to the south pier, I consider it impracticable and useless to attempt to construct it on its present site, and the timber had better be taken down and used elsewhere.

Should it be hereafter determined to construct the south pier, it should be erected in the position indicated by the natural peculiarities of the locality, viz., on the inner side of the reef running out from the bluff.

It may be thought that the modifications in the work herein proposed involve a complete departure from the plans of Captain Vetch, but I beg to point out that this is scarcely the case. Captain Vetch designed his general plan independent of any special mode of construction, and he then recommended Mr. Abernethy's system of construction, because it appeared to be economical and expeditious, and had been successful in another instance, although, as I have pointed out, under very different circumstances from those of Port Natal harbour, and therefore an alteration in the detail of the work by no means alters the general design or its efficiency, and the slight alteration proposed in the direction of the pier is one necessitated by the direction of the rollers, respecting which Captain Vetch appears to have been under some misapprehension. With respect to forming a "hard" of small stone to consolidate the bottom and form a base for the superstructure, Captain Vetch himself recommended it in his report.

5th.—Upon the effects of the works, as far as they have gone, and the probable results of carrying out the north pier sufficiently to close up permanently the present northern channel.

I have already stated that I consider the north pier placed too far to the north of the entrance to the harbour, and consequently I do not think the works can have had the effect they would have had if placed in what I consider a more favourable position; but still it appears to be the opinion of the port captain and others, who from their long acquaintance with and constant observation of the harbour are much better able to judge than I am, that a permanent improvement has lately taken place in the state of the bar; the far channel, although not so deep as it has occasionally been previous to the construction of the north pier, being more regularly maintained at a fair depth of water, and this I find is corroborated by the results of a careful examination of the soundings taken from time to time during the last three years. As this is the case, I believe that the extension of the north pier for 1,000 feet further will have a further beneficial effect on the bar, by closing the north channel, and thereby forcing the ebb tide more to seaward, and thus a somewhat increased and more regular depth of water may be expected; although I do not think, for the reasons given in paragraph 2nd, that the extension of this pier, even to a considerably further length than is at present proposed, can give anything like the depth over the bar contemplated by Captain Vetch as a permanency.

6th. Upon the plans suggested for improving the harbour by works within the bay or inner harbour, and suggestions for such improvements as may be advantageous.

Various suggestions and recommendations appear to have been made at different periods, with a view to improve the scour over the bar, by means of works within the bay. These are chiefly:—

1st. To divert the river Umgeni from its present course, and cause it to discharge into the bay.

2nd. To straighten the channels of the rivers Umbilo and Umhlutazan from where they discharge into the bay, down towards the present deep-water pool off the Custom House.

3rd. To dredge a channel across the sand-bank, extending from the eastern end of Salisbury Island towards the Custom House.

The intended object of the first proposition is to render the volume and velocity of the waters of the Umgeni available as an increased scouring force.

The intended object of the second proposition is to render the action of the current of these streams available as far down the bay as possible, and to give a straighter direction, and consequently a greater momentum, to a portion of the ebb tide, and also to enable lighters and other vessels of small draught to ascend their channels to load and discharge within them, and beyond the head of the bay.

The intended object of the third proposition is to guide the ebb tide more directly on and over the bar, and thereby render its scouring force greater.

In reference to the first proposition, setting aside the heavy cost which would be necessary to block up effectually the present outfall of the river Umgeni, and form a permanent and durable bed for it from the Queen's Bridge to Cato's Creek, where the new outfall is proposed to be placed, I believe the result would be most disastrous, as in summer, when only there would be a sufficient volume of water to have any practical effect on the bar (if even then), the quantity of silt brought down by the stream and deposited, as the greater part of it would be, within the bay would be far greater than the quantity of sand which it could possibly remove from the bar, and in winter, when the water is clear, its volume and velocity would be much too small to have the slightest effect. Besides, by lengthening the distance between the point at which the river would be diverted and its outfall, its velocity would be proportionately decreased, and its fall in winter would not exceed about 18 inches per mile, which would give so small a velocity of current as to have no practical effect beyond the point at which its waters fall into the wide basin of the bay. It is true Captain Vetch suggests an embankment being made across the proposed new channel with sluices, so that when the waters of the Umgeni are charged with sand they should not be allowed to flow into the bay, whilst a stream of clear water could be discharged into it; but this would virtually amount to the entire diversion of the river from the bay during the whole of the summer season, when only, as I have stated, would the waters of the Umgeni have sufficient volume and force to have the least effect.

In reference to the second proposition, the dredging and straightening of the channels of the Umbilo and the Umhlutazan would, if judiciously carried out, no doubt tend to facilitate the ebb and flow of the tide in the upper portion of the bay, and would be of considerable advantage in enabling small craft to ascend these rivers as far as the public road which crosses them at high water, and by forming cross channels from the beach below the town to join these river channels, facilities would be effected for water carriage between the point and the town. Dredging would, however, be required from time to time, to keep these channels clear and remove the sand which would accumulate in them; but this would be excellent work upon which to employ the convicts when they are no longer required on the harbour works.

In reference to the third proposition, there is no doubt that such a channel as that proposed by Captain Grantham would have a very beneficial effect by straightening the direction of the ebb-tide, and thereby allowing it to set more directly and with greater velocity across the bar; and were there no other questions involved than the simple one of effecting this, then I shall most strongly urge this being carried into effect, as one of the most likely means of improving the scour; but, on the other hand, any deepening of the harbour in the direction proposed for this channel would inevitably be followed by a proportionate filling up the present anchorage ground in front of the Custom House, whereby the whole of the present wharves would be rendered useless, and the anchorage ground would be entirely shifted unless constant and heavy dredging were employed to maintain the requisite depth of water. For this reason I deem it would be very inexpedient to form such a channel as that proposed, at least until the trade and wealth of the Colony have so much increased as to justify the heavy expense which such a work would necessitate for the due maintenance of a proper port and landing wharves.

Hereafter, if the Colony be in a position to undertake it, jetties could be run out at right angles from the present wharves towards the proposed new channel, which would then form the anchorage ground in lieu of the present one.

There is, however, one improvement which might be effected within the harbour, which would greatly facilitate the landing and discharging of goods, and would have no bad effect upon the present anchorage

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES AND NEW ZEALAND.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Right Hon. Sir JOHN YOUNG, Bart.,
to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 86.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Sydney, October 14, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Statistical Register of New South Wales for the year 1866.

2. The Registrar General has this year prefixed a Report to the Official Returns, which will be found interesting in many respects, as conveying succinctly information in respect to the various resources of New South Wales, and the wide and safe field which the territory offers, both for the employment of the industrious and the investments of the wealthy.

3. Your Grace will observe that, notwithstanding the complaints of bad seasons and depressed commerce, the rate of wages seems to have been maintained fully at the level of the last seven years.

4. Generally, so far as my observation extends, the remark may be made, though not wholly without reserve, that the less skilled the labour the higher the rate in the Colonial Market, as compared with the amount obtainable for the same kind of labour at home.

5. The wages of females employed as domestic servants are mainly kept up by the disinclination of the young women born in the Colony to go into service (as it is termed). The instances of their doing so are, I am told, rare—rare I presume in contrast to the contrary practice which prevails in most European Countries.

6. There can be little doubt that the Registrar General is right in saying that many of the articles which are now imported might be supplied by Colonial enterprise. The soil and climate are highly favourable for the production of, amongst other things, sago, arrowroot, tobacco, and various descriptions of grain and fruit; minerals abound, and the raw materials for such manufactures as glass and earthenware are found within easy reach and of excellent quality, but every undertaking which is to be carried on by hired labour is restricted by the high rate of wages and the scanty supply of labourers. Hence, however sanguine may be the hopes entertained in some quarters, and however great the desire to render the Colony independent of supplies from beyond sea, the progress in that direction will, I apprehend, be slow.

7. In the meantime, however, it is consolatory to know that those of the labouring class who have quitted the land of their birth with the hope of bettering their condition, are not likely to be disappointed in their expectations of remuneration, and of achieving comfort and permanent independence, if only they add sobriety and forethought to their habits of industry.

8. Various attempts have, however, been made to turn the resources at command to profit, and amongst others, a manufactory, for making glass of the cheaper kinds most in use, has recently been established in Sydney; its prospects are excellent, and more orders are received than it is found possible to execute. The chief difficulty at the moment is the paucity of hands, and the somewhat irregular attendance of the workmen. The articles produced can be sold with profit at 35 to 40 per cent. below the price of importations of the same sort.

9. In accordance with the request contained in the Circular Despatch of date 16th February 1865, an extra copy is forwarded for the French Government.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c.

&c.

&c.

(Signed) JOHN YOUNG.

The Registrar General's Report to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.
Introductory.

SIR, Registrar General's Office, Sydney, August 2, 1867.

The annual Statistical Register for the year 1866 which is herewith presented to you will be found to contain a series of Tables carefully compiled, which give a faithful record of the progress made by the Colony during the year 1866.

For the purpose of making a more extended comparison, there are also inserted several Decennial Tables, which exhibit, in a concise form, the changes that have taken place in the numbers, the industry, the wealth, and the commercial relations of the people for ten years past.

In the majority of their aspects it is satisfactory to find that a steady progress has been made, and that the moral and educational status of the population has kept pace with its advance in material prosperity.

The growing interest that has been evinced during late years, by all classes of society, in all that relates to social improvement induces the hope that the materials here furnished will be carefully studied, with a view to the diffusion of correct information as to the large resources that this Colony possesses, and the advantages it offers for the employment of industry and enterprise.

In these days of widely extended information and rapid communication between distant countries, it is very desirable that the movements of commerce and of population, and the efforts of industry, should be recorded, in order that the large number of individuals in the crowded cities of Europe, who are always on the look out for some chance of amending their condition, may be directed where to bend their steps.

The details contained in these Statistics, will satisfy every thoughtful and candid inquirer that the Colony of New South Wales presents attractions equal to those of any other Colony under the British Crown.

With a view to simplify the study of the various tables, a rapid and concise summary is here appended, and remarks are made in elucidation of the facts stated.

PART I.

POPULATION, IMMIGRATION, &c.

The Population Table shows a net estimated increase of 20,026 persons on the numbers of the previous year, the estimated number on the 31st December 1865, being 411,388, and on the 31st December 1866, it was 431,414. Population.

The number of births registered in the Colony was 8,833 males and 8,117 females, together 16,950; while the deaths were 4,396 males and 2,965 females, together 7,361. Births.

It is worthy of remark that this is the only year during the last ten years when the births have been fewer than during the preceding year.

The deaths of this year were 7,361, being 4,396 males and 2,965 females. This is the largest number yet recorded. Deaths.

As these statistics are the subject of a special report, it is not thought necessary to recapitulate the ample details contained therein.

The number of marriages celebrated has been smaller than that in the preceding year, being 3,462 against 3,578 in 1865. It appears that the practice of marrying before a Registrar is becoming gradually more common, as there has been a progressive increase in the number of such marriages during the last ten years. Marriages.

Immigration.

The immigration from the United Kingdom shows a larger falling off in the number than in any previous year, the total for 1866 being 1,852, of whom 1,204 came in at the public expense, and 648 at their own expense.

The Religions of the immigrants at the public expense were,—

Protestants,	Roman Catholics.	Other Religions.
369	830	5

NEW SOUTH WALES. and their native countries were,—

	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	Other Countries.
	190	64	937	13

Lunatic Asylums.

Tarban Creek. It is to be regretted that the numbers of those in confinement in the public lunatic asylums continues to increase in a larger ratio than the population. The total number in Tarban Creek Asylum on the 31st December 1865, was 492, of whom 315 were males and 177 were females. There were remaining on the 31st December 1866, 546, of whom 366 were males and 180 females. It is a matter of congratulation, however, that considerable improvements and enlargements have recently been made in this building, by which the comfort of the inmates will be increased, and their unhappy position ameliorated. There is a slight improvement in the number discharged during the year as cured, the numbers being 70 discharged cured in 1865, and 73 in 1866. It would appear that the British-born population supplies by far the larger portion of cases of lunacy, there being 438 of them to 56 Colonial-born and 52 Foreign-born.

Native Countries.

Parramatta.

Native countries.

There is also an increase to be noted in the number of lunatics in the asylum at Parramatta. On the 31st December 1865, there were 446, of whom 255 were males and 191 were females; and on the 31st December 1866, there remained in the asylum 470, of whom 273 were males and 197 were females. Here also, the British-born numbered 369 cases, Colonial-born 63, and Foreign-born 38.

Charitable Institutions.

Hospitals. Benevolent Asylums, &c.

Miscellaneous.

The table forming return No. 10 gives full details of the number of the charitable institutions in the Colony, with a statement of the receipts and disbursements. Here it is to be noted that there is a gradually increasing expenditure all over the Colony. The hospitals during the year 1865 expended 24,302*l.* 9*s.*, and during 1866, 29,912*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* The benevolent asylums in 1865 cost 18,230*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, and in 1866, 21,894*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* The orphan and ragged schools cost 8,205*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* in 1865, and 9,030*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* in 1866. The expenses of lunatic asylums increased from 21,079*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* in 1865, to 25,110*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* in 1866; and the miscellaneous charitable institutions from 13,187*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.* in 1865, to 17,335*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* in 1866. Of the whole of this expenditure the sum of 74,388*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* was contributed by Government, and 23,965*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* by voluntary contributions. It is worthy of remark that, while the voluntary contributions have declined, the public expenditure has increased, and it would seem to indicate the desirability of placing these local institutions under the Municipal authorities wherever practicable, in order that an efficient check may be kept upon the expenditure.

Receipts, &c. per head.

It appears that the total number receiving relief during the year 1866 amounted to 20,161 persons, and the expenditure was at the rate of nearly 5*l.* 2*s.* 5½*d.* per head, while the receipts were at the rate of nearly 4*l.* 17*s.* 6¾*d.* per head.

Rates of Wages.

The average rates of wages ruling since the year 1860 will be seen by the following table; and it is remarkable that, with all the alleged want of employment and complaints of wide-spread distress, the rates have been maintained with very little deviation for several years past.

	TOWN.								COUNTRY.							
	Wages per diem, without Board and Lodging.								Wages per annum, with Board and Lodging.							
	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.		1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	
MALES—																
Carpenters	10 0	10 0	10 0	9	8 to 9	8 to 9	8 to 9	..	..	..	45	65 to 80	50 to 80	50 to 80	50 to 70	
Smiths	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10	..	..	..	..	65 to 80	50 to 80	50 to 80	50 to 70	
Wheelwrights	10 0	10 6	10 6	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10	..	..	..	..	65 to 80	50 to 80	50 to 80	50 to 70	
Bricklayers	10 0	11 0	12 to 14	10	9 to 10	9 to 10	9 to 10	..	..	..	..	80 to 100	80 to 100	80 to 100	80 to 100	
Masons	11 0	11 6	10 0	10	10	10	10	..	..	..	..	80 to 100	80 to 100	80 to 100	80 to 100	
Farm Labourers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30 to 40	30 to 40	30 to 40	30 to 35	28 to 30	28 to 30	28 to 30	
Shepherds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30 to 35	30 to 35	35	30 to 35	30 to 35	30 to 35	30 to 35	
FEMALES—																
Cooks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25 to 30	25 to 30	25 to 30	26 to 40	26 to 32	26 to 30	26 to 30	26 to 26	
Housemaids	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16 to 25	20 to 25	20 to 25	20 to 26	20 to 26	20 to 26	20 to 26	20 to 26	
Laundresses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25 to 30	25 to 30	30 to 40	26 to 32	26 to 30	26 to 26	26 to 26	26 to 26	
Nursemaids	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15 to 20	15 to 20	15 to 25	15 to 25	15 to 26	15 to 26	15 to 26	16 to 20	
General House Servants, Dairy Women, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18 to 25	20 to 25	22 to 25	18 to 32	18 to 26	18 to 26	20 to 25	20 to 25	

*Provisions.*NEW SOUTH
WALES.

The charges upon articles of consumption should be considered in connection with the cost of living in the Colony; for it has been widely asserted that they are so high that the high rate of wages which is obtained here is more than counterbalanced thereby. There is, therefore, appended an abstract of a few of the main articles with the rates ruling since 1860, from which it will be seen that the cost of the necessaries, and even of the luxuries of life, is not at all extravagant:—

	YEARS.						
	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Wheat, per bushel - - -	8 0	6 6	7 0	6 6	12 0	8 0	6 6
Bread (1st quality), per lb. - - -	0 3½	0 4	0 2½	0 2½	0 3	0 4	0 4
Flour do. do. - - -	0 3½	0 3	0 3	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 3
Rice - - - - -	0 5	0 4	{ 0 2 to 0 4 }	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 4
Oatmeal - - - - -	0 6	0 6	0 5	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4
Tea - - - - -	2 3	2 4	{ 1 6 to 2 6 }	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 6
Sugar - - - - -	0 5½	0 5½	{ 0 3½ to 0 5 }	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 4
Coffee - - - - -	1 6	1 6	{ 1 4 to 1 6 }	1 4	1 4	1 4	1 4
Meat, fresh, per lb. - - -	0 4	0 3	{ 0 4 to 0 5 }	0 4½	0 4	0 3	0 3
Butter, do. do. - - -	1 6	1 8	2 3	1 6	1 6	1 9	1 3
Cheese, English, do. - - -	1 6	1 7	1 6	1 6	1 6	1 6	1 6
Potatoes, per cwt. - - -	7 6	7 3	8 0	7 0	5 0	8 0	6 0

PART II.

RELIGION, EDUCATION, AND CRIME.

The table No. 19 exhibits the provision made for public worship by the members of all denominations. It does not comprise the total expense, except in so far as the cost is defrayed by the public funds. The denominations that do not partake of State aid are of course under no obligation to disclose their receipts and expenditure, but they are known to be large, and it is probable that the voluntary contributions to the support of Religion exceed the sum granted by the State.

The registered number of ministers is stated to be 439, which is an advance of 43 on the number registered in 1865. The number of churches and chapels is 604 against 576 in 1865, while the dwellings and public buildings used for purposes of public worship have increased from 922 to 956. The accommodation and attendance have also increased as far as can be ascertained, but the returns are admittedly imperfect. Sufficient evidence is given, however, that there is a progress in the religious life of the population that keeps pace with the increase of the population.

The proportionate attendance of the various denominations was as follows:—

Church of England	-	-	-	33·54 per cent.
Roman Catholic	-	-	-	21·54 „
Presbyterian	-	-	-	11·16 „
Wesleyan Methodist	-	-	-	23·70 „
Congregational	-	-	-	4·39 „
Primitive Methodist	-	-	-	2·50 „
Baptist	-	-	-	1·68 „
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	1·49 „

Ministers.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

Sunday Schools.

There is a large increase in the number of Sunday schools, which are stated to be 640 in number in 1866 against 588 in 1865, of all denominations. The teachers also have increased from the number of 4,155 in 1865 to 4,439 in 1866, and the scholars from 35,566 in 1865 to 37,215 in 1866. The table No. 20 furnishes particular details as to the relative numbers attending the various denominational schools; and it is satisfactory to observe that such an active and beneficial agency is at work in the dissemination of intellectual culture and religious training. There were on an average eight children to each teacher in 1866.

Day Schools.

The children in the Protestant and Roman Catholic orphan schools number 510 This is 15 in excess of the previous year's returns.

The expenditure amounted to 8,332*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, against 7,500*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* the year previous. It is a lamentable fact that the Destitute Children's Asylum shows an increase of over 100 inmates, compared with 1865, viz. :—

1865	-	-	-	-	553
Increase	-	-	-	-	101
1866	-	-	-	-	654

The Government contributions are largely in excess of the previous year, whilst the voluntary contributions have not met with the same spirit of liberality :—

		Government.	Voluntary.	Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1865	- -	2,433 13 4	3,979 15 3	6,413 8 7
1866	- -	7,526 12 6	3,042 4 5	10,568 16 11
Increase	-	5,092 19 2	—	4,155 8 4
Decrease	-	—	937 10 10	—

The Board of National Education and the Denominational School Board were dissolved at the end of the year by the Act of Parliament 30 Victoria, No. 22.

The number of Schools, Teachers, and Scholars of these institutions for the past two years are appended :—

	Schools.		
	1865.	1866.	Increase.
Denominational	*351	378	27
National	268	272	4
Total	619	650	31

The Teachers have gradually increased as follows :—

	Schools.		
	1865.	1866.	Increase.
Denominational	445	505	60
National	386	404	18
Total	831	909	78

* Twenty-two of these schools were closed during the year.

The Scholars of both systems show an increase of over 5,000, viz. :—

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

	Schools.		
	1865.	1866.	Increase.
Denominational -	23,746	27,709	3,963
National -	18,126	19,258	1,132
Total -	41,872	46,967	5,095

Under the Denominational system, each school averaged 73 scholars.

Under the National system, each school averaged 67 scholars.

The aid from Government in support of Denominational Schools amounted to 40,412*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* (inclusive of 828*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.* from Clergy and School Estates), or at the rate of 1*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* per head; and from voluntary contributions, 18,800*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*, or at the rate of 13*s.* 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per head.

For the support of National Schools the State contributed 40,828*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*, or at the rate of 2*l.* 2*s.* 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* per head. The receipt from voluntary contributions was 13,424*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, or 13*s.* 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* per head.

The University of Sydney had the attendance of 38* students, against 43 the year before. The receipts were, from Government, 5,000*l.*, and from voluntary contributions, &c., 6,226*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, making a total of 11,226*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* Sydney University.

St. Paul's College has 11 students, against 8 the year before. The receipts amounted to 810*l.*, of which sum 650*l.* came from the State. St. Paul's College.

St. John's College remains with the same number of students as in 1865, viz., 8. The receipts from Government amounted to 500*l.*, and from other sources 300*l.* St. John's College.

The Sydney Grammar School had the attendance of 14 teachers (6 engaged the whole time, and 8 engaged for particular lessons) to impart tuition to 114 scholars. This shows a decrease on the return of the previous year of 2 teachers, and in the average attendance 27 scholars. Towards the support of this school the State contributed 1,500*l.* (endowment), and the receipts from other sources were 2,056*l.* 10*s.*, of which sum 2,002*l.* 10*s.* were school fees. Sydney Grammar School.

The private schools number 498, with an attendance of 11,292 scholars. Private schools.

Altogether there are now in the Colony 1,155 schools, with an attendance of 59,594 scholars, of which 31,183 are boys, and 28,411 girls.

The number of schools and scholars in the Colony during the last five years is appended. Total schools and scholars.

Year.	Schools.	Scholars.		
		Male.	Female.	Total.
1862 - -	925	22,125	20,086	42,211
1863 - -	976	24,511	22,299	46,810
1864 - -	1,022	25,297	23,130	48,427
1865 - -	1,069	27,867	25,586	53,453
1866 - -	1,155	31,183	28,411	59,594

The total amount paid from the Treasury in 1866 for the support of Educational Institutions was 104,599*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, or at the rate of 4*s.* 10*d.* per head of the population.

Crime.

The commitments for trial to the higher Courts of Justice in 1866 are in excess of the previous year, as will be observed from this table :— Commitments for trial.

* Matriculated students attending lectures, 34. Matriculated students who obtained dispensations exempting them from attending lectures, 2. Non-matriculated students, 2. Total, 38.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

—				1865.	1866.	Increase.
Supreme Court—				No.	No.	No.
Felonies - - - -				166	222	56
Misdemeanors - - - -				50	57	7
Total - - - -				216	279	63
Courts of Quarter Sessions—						
Felonies - - - -				717	741	24
Misdemeanors - - - -				190	235	45
Total - - - -				907	976	69
General Total - - - -				1,123	1,255	132

Taking the mean of the triennial periods, 1861-3 and 1864-6, a slight difference of 0·002 per 1,000 of the population in favour of the former period will be observed, viz. :—

1861 to 1863 - - - -	- 2·371 per 1,000 of the population.
1864 to 1866 - - - -	- 2·369 " "
Difference - - - -	- 0·002 " "

Convictions.

The convictions in the higher Courts of Justice show a marked increase upon the returns since the year 1860. Beyond this period I think it unnecessary to introduce into this work. The year's increase over 1865 is 84, as follows :—

—				1865.	1866.	Decrease.	Increase.
Supreme Court—				No.	No.	No.	No.
Felonies - - - -				105	150	—	45
Misdemeanors - - - -				22	34	—	12
Total - - - -				127	184	—	57
Courts of Quarter Sessions—							
Felonies - - - -				439	433	6	—
Misdemeanors - - - -				120	153	—	33
Total - - - -				559	586	6	33
General Total - - - -				686	770	6	90

A difference of 0·362 per 1,000 of the population in favour of the period 1861-3, compared with 1864-6, will be seen as follows :—

1861-3 - - - -	- 1·327 per 1,000 of the population.
1864-6 - - - -	- 1·689 " "
Difference - - - -	- 0·362 " "

Ratio of commitments and convictions to population.

The following table will give the proportion the commitments, as well as the convictions, bore to the population from 1860 to 1866.

Year.	Population at the middle of the Year.	Commitments.	Convictions.	Proportion to Population.			
				Commitments.		Convictions.	
				Ratio per 1,000.	Or,	Ratio per 1,000.	Or,
1860	330,840	685	405	2·070	1 in 483	1·224	1 in 817
1861	353,332	820	437	2·321	1 " 431	1·237	1 " 808
1862	365,741	879	514	2·403	1 " 416	1·405	1 " 711
1863	371,160	887	497	2·389	1 " 418	1·339	1 " 746
1864	385,893	975	590	2·526	1 " 395	1·528	1 " 654
1865	402,163	907	686	2·255	1 " 443	1·705	1 " 586
1866	419,695	976	770	2·325	1 " 430	1·834	1 " 545

Of the committals—61· per cent. in 1860,
 53· ,, 1861,
 58· ,, 1862,
 56· ,, 1863,
 60· ,, 1864,
 75· ,, 1865, and
 79· ,, 1866

NEW SOUTH
 WALES.

were brought home to conviction.

Summary Jurisdiction.

The apprehensions throughout the Colony numbered 16,004, of whom 12,194 were males and 3,810 females.

The indictments preferred against the offenders were,—

Offences.

		Males.	Females.
Offences against the person	-	4,990	2,242
Ditto property	-	3,877	721
Drunkenness	-	3,327	847
In all	-	12,194	3,810

The investigations by the Magistrates into the various cases resulted as follows:—

Result of investigation.

				Convicted.		Committed for Trial.		Discharged.	
				Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Offences against the person	-	-	-	3,190	1,737	233	25	1,567	480
Ditto property	-	-	-	1,532	372	924	99	1,421	250
Drunkenness	-	-	-	1,716	380	—	—	1,611	467
Total	-	-	-	6,438	2,489	1,157	124	4,599	1,197

Of the males, 53· per cent. were convicted, 9· per cent. committed to trial, and 38· per cent. discharged.

Of the females, 65· per cent. were convicted, 3· per cent. committed to trial, and 32· per cent. discharged.

The following table will give the proportion the apprehensions bore to the population during the last eight years; and if it can be taken as an index to the moral state of the community, it certainly goes to prove that a change for the better has taken place during the last two years:—

Ratio of apprehensions to population.

Year.	Population.	Apprehensions.	Ratio to Population.	
			Per 1,000	Or,
1859	330,860	18,018	54·458	1 in 18
1860	330,840	19,193	58·013	1 „ 17
1861	353,332	16,737	47·368	1 „ 21
1862	365,741	15,410	42·133	1 „ 23
1863	371,160	15,855	42·717	1 „ 23
1864	385,893	16,858	43·685	1 „ 22
1865	402,163	15,687	39·006	1 „ 25
1866	419,695	16,004	38·132	1 „ 26

PART III.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Imports and Exports.

The tables that have been compiled, giving detailed accounts of the imports and exports during the year, will show in a striking manner how dependent the Colony is upon foreign supplies of raw produce and manufactured articles. With a view to direct attention to some of the many imports which might be supplied by colonial enterprise, a selection has been made of the more prominent instances, showing the amounts annually expended for consumption.

Acids.

The imports for 1863 were valued at 5,035*l.*, in 1864 3,437*l.*, in 1865 4,328*l.*, and in 1866 2,952*l.*; while the exports were in 1863 1,695*l.*, in 1864 976*l.*, in 1865 1,886*l.*, and in 1866 they were valued at 606*l.* The chief of these articles is sulphuric acid, which most valuable chemical agent is used in the manufacture of artificial manures, kerosene oil, and in various other processes of the arts. It is satisfactory to be able to report that this highly important product is now made in the Colony quite equal in quality to that imported, and that the cost is even less than the English acid can be laid down for here. The consequence is that a considerable demand is springing up, and already we find it becoming an article of export. The principal ingredient in its composition is sulphur, which is obtained for this market from the South Sea Islands—1,500 cwt. having been imported thence during the year 1865, and 654 cwt. during 1866. There is, however, some expectation that it will be possible to collect and utilize the large quantities of sulphur which are yearly wasted in the reduction of the various minerals and ores in our mining districts. Considering the great variety of uses to which sulphuric acid is now applied, it is probable that this will become a very important manufacture here, especially as this port has the advantage of more direct communication with the South Sea Islands, and the superior cheapness of coal here will enable us to produce it at a lower cost than any other of the Australian Colonies.

Apparel and Slops.

There were imported to the value of 198,500*l.* in 1864, to 192,112*l.* in 1865, and 199,760*l.* in 1866. With the recent extraordinary development of machinery in the manufacture of clothing, it is rather surprising that so large a quantity of ready-made articles should be imported to this market, where there is a large unemployed female population. The amount of Victorian-made clothing imported is considerable, having been valued at 29,545*l.* in 1865, and 10,134*l.* in 1866. It would appear that there is an opening here for Colonial industry that would probably give employment to a large number of young females who have now become familiar with the sewing machines that have revolutionized this department of labour.

Arrowroot and Sago.

These valuable products were imported to the value of 2,819*l.* in 1864, 3,277*l.* in 1865, and 2,804*l.* in 1866. The great bulk of this import was arrowroot alone; but inasmuch as this article grows freely all over this Colony, it is to be hoped that we shall be soon independent of foreign supplies. At the recent Intercolonial Exhibition held at Melbourne there were many samples of arrowroot shown by growers in the Hunter, the Clarence, and the Illawarra Districts. They attracted considerable attention in Victoria, and several specimens were awarded medals. The quality of many of the samples was pronounced equal to the best West India, and the Victorian agriculturists considered that it would become an important article of New South Wales produce. The manufacture is simple, and machines for the grating of the root are now to be had at a very low price, and it is essentially a domestic manufacture. It is to be hoped that attention will be turned to this natural product, so that instead of finding it among our imports it may take a position among our exports.

Ammunition.

Gunpowder is largely imported, showing a value of 20,143*l.* in 1864, of 32,460*l.* in 1865, and 17,049*l.* in 1866. The demand in the adjoining Colonies for mining purposes

is also very large. As nitre, the chief ingredient in this compound, is not produced here, it is not probable that it will be manufactured in this Colony for some time to come; but there are some recently discovered substitutes used for explosive purposes, such as gun-cotton and nitro-glycerine, which are coming extensively into use. Either of these articles might be manufactured here with advantage, as the restrictions that are imposed upon the carriage of them by sea render the cost of them very great. As it is highly probable that this Colony will be the seat of a vast mining industry, attention should be directed to all the products employed in such operations.

Arms—Guns.

These articles have never yet been made in the Colonies, although the imports are large, viz., valued at 14,972*l.* in 1864, 32,460*l.* in 1865, and 17,049*l.* in 1866. The elaborate machinery, and the large amount of skilled labour required for the manufacture of fire-arms, forbid the expectation of its establishment here; but it is some satisfaction to know that when the time shall arrive for such enterprises we have iron of the finest quality for the purpose, abundance of coal to melt it, and timber admirably adopted for gun stocks. With such advantages, it is probable that New South Wales, in case of urgent need, would be called upon and would be able to supply arms for the whole of the Australian Colonies.

Blankets.

This article was imported to the extent of 21,530*l.* in 1864, 12,913*l.* in 1865, and 14,479*l.* in 1866. When it is remembered that this Colony exports upwards of 30,000,000 lbs. weight of wool annually, it appears strange that a manufactory for blankets has not been established here. In an article where the raw material forms so large a proportion of the cost, and which is not subject to any elaborate process of manufacture, it would appear that colonial industry was peculiarly applicable and must succeed.

Candles—Sperm.

These also form large articles of import; the value being in 1864 87,152*l.*, in 1865 34,835*l.*, and in 1866 52,956*l.* It would be expected that a Colony which exported tallow to the extent of 75,810 cwt. in 1865 and 27,726 cwt. in 1866, might certainly produce all the candles necessary for its own consumption. But this is a remarkable instance of the power of capital and cheap labour; for the attempt to introduce the manufacture has been made both in this Colony and in Victoria, and it was found that the imported article could be sold at a cheaper rate than the home-made, although the tallow from which the foreign article was made had to perform the entire circuit of the globe. The extraordinary progress that is now made in the use of Kerosene oil for purposes of illumination has materially diminished the imports of sperm candles, and rendered the establishment of a colonial manufactory very improbable.

Confections and Preserves.

These were imported to the value of 37,917*l.* in 1864, 39,616*l.* in 1865, and 29,920*l.* in 1866. There can be no doubt but that the domestic manufacture of these articles is very large, especially in the country. Considering that fruit is so abundant and cheap, and sugar also, it is rather surprising that the imports should be so large as they are. When our railways shall have placed us in more rapid communication with those parts of the Colony where all the English fruits are grown in perfection, we shall probably have colonial manufactures established that will render us independent of foreign supplies. At present, our imports from Tasmania are considerable. There is one preserve that surely ought to be produced here, namely marmalade. The orange grows in such luxuriance, and sugar is so cheap, that there can be no excuse for the importation of this favourite delicacy. Candied orange and lemon peel also ought to be produced in sufficient quantities for home consumption. There are various other products of the orange also that should attract the attention of the manufacturing chemist and perfumer.

Cordage and Rope.

There is a large demand for this article in the Colony, arising from the extensive employment of shipping. The imports in 1864 were 43,835*l.*, in 1865 44,435*l.*, and in 1866 12,554*l.* The raw materials of cocoa-nut fibre and New Zealand flax could be

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

obtained in considerable quantities, but at present there is but a small demand. A rope manufactory has been established here, but not on a scale sufficient to influence the importations to any extent. It would be desirable to ascertain if there are any native products obtainable in large quantities suitable for cordage purposes, as the demand is constant, and likely to increase as mining enterprise is developed.

Earthenware and China.

The imports of this material are very large, having been in 1863 45,244*l.*, in 1864 40,243*l.*, in 1865 53,520*l.*, and in 1866 29,791*l.* This is also an article to the production of which it may be hoped and expected that colonial industry will be shortly directed. The large cost of importation, arising from the bulky character of the goods, and the great amount of breakage that takes place, is computed to double the English cost when delivered to consumers. There is no doubt but that the Colony possesses in abundance the raw materials for every description of China and earthenware, and the plant of this manufacture is not an expensive one, for pottery is chiefly the product of hand labour. Fuel is cheaper here than in any other of the Colonies, and there would probably be found skilled potters in our midst, who, in the absence of employment in their own trade, have taken up with other trades, but who would gladly enter in their own business were an opportunity afforded. This business would also give light and healthy employment to a large number of women and children. In the commoner description of China and earthenware it would appear that there is an opening for colonial manufactures, as there has been proved to be for coarse earthenware pipes, tiles, jars, chimney-pots, &c. These used to be imported to the extent of 1,884*l.* in 1863, 781*l.* in 1864, 420*l.* in 1865, and nil in 1866; but recently the colonial manufacture has quite driven the imported article out of the market. At the late Intercolonial Exhibition at Melbourne the specimens contributed by local makers were highly commended, and medals were awarded to them.

Flour and Grain.

As the import and export of these articles are treated of in another portion of this Report, under the head of Agriculture, it is unnecessary to enter upon them here.

Fruit—Dried.

The imports amounted to 53,262*l.* in 1864, to 29,351*l.* in 1865, and to 63,293*l.* in 1866. At present there is no attempt made to supply the home market from the productions of the Colony. It is certain that the Colony could produce raisins, dried apples, dried quinces, figs, almonds, dried peaches, and most of the other imported fruits, in great perfection, and samples have been exhibited for years past. It is to be hoped that, when population shall become more abundant, many of these smaller industries will take root, and add to the material prosperity of the Colony.

Fruit—Green.

This is a large item in our exports, amounting to 38,961*l.* in 1864, 57,557*l.* in 1865, and 46,708*l.* in 1866. It consists chiefly of oranges to Victoria and the neighbouring Colonies. It appears certain that our climate, which is so favourable to the growth of this delicious fruit, will secure us this large and profitable trade, which is capable of considerable expansion. There are also various other products to be derived from the orange which deserve attention, as has been before mentioned.

Furniture.

This was imported in 1864 to the extent of 57,211*l.*, in 1865 48,842*l.*, and in 1866 28,109*l.* Our exports of colonial manufactured furniture for the same periods were 3,714*l.* in 1864, 2,305*l.* in 1865, and 2,286*l.* in 1866. Here again is an article which might be supposed, from its bulk, and from its variation in fashion, to be especially adapted for home manufacture. The timber of the Colony is admirably suited for ornamental purposes, and is far more durable than any imported material, but in spite of these advantages native industry cannot compete with imported articles. The only prospect there is for this manufacture being established here as a remunerative enterprise would appear to be by the application of machinery to its production on a large scale. By this means the neighbouring Colony of Victoria has set on foot local manufactures, which appear to prosper.

Glass.

The quantity of glassware imported in 1863 was 15,887*l.*, in 1864 21,031*l.*, in 1865 40,451*l.*, and in 1866 20,455*l.* In addition to these large items, there were imported plate and window glass to a large amount. It has long been known that this Colony possesses in abundance the finest materials for the manufacture of glass, with the single exception of soda ash, which can be imported at a cheap rate. The high rate of carriage, and the very large proportion of breakage that takes place in the importation of this article, would appear to offer a sufficient bounty for a local manufacture, and it is satisfactory to see that an attempt has been made in Sydney by the establishment of a glass works, which is now in operation. The quality of the article produced has been highly approved, and it is to be hoped that this attempt will result in the development of a new and important industry in our midst.

Hats, Caps, and Bonnets

Were imported to the value of 48,617*l.* in 1864, 49,438*l.* in 1865, and 55,065*l.* in 1866. From the very bulky nature of these goods, the import charges add enormously to their original cost. There is a small local manufacture springing up, aided by the application of machinery. We hear also that, at the French Exhibition, very compact and complete machinery is exhibited for the manufacture of felt hats from Australian wool, in a remarkably short space of time. It is possible that such a process might be applied with success here, where the raw material could be had at such advantage. With reference to bonnets, however, the influence of fashion is so powerful that it is probable they will always continue to be imported in large quantities.

Hosiery and Gloves.

These articles were imported to the value of 35,926*l.* in 1864, 39,407*l.* in 1865, and 40,959*l.* in 1866. There is no reported manufacture of either of these articles in the Colony. In the article of hose, which is eminently a domestic manufacture, and is capable of being carried on in the dwelling of the artisan, it is remarkable that no workman should have set up a stocking frame. We have wool of the finest description, and shall shortly number cotton among our productions; so that, at no distant date, it is probable that these smaller departments of the clothing trade will be entered upon here, giving employment to numbers of youths of both sexes. In the article of gloves, although the demand is large, and the cost greatly augmented from the difficulty of importing them free from damp or mildew, yet as we do not produce the finer descriptions of leather, there is little prospect of this industry being established here.

Hardware.

The imports under this designation amounted to 262,868*l.* in 1864, to 289,692*l.* in 1865, and 165,881*l.* in 1866. During the same period the exports were 123,494*l.* in 1864, 125,505*l.* in 1865, and 2,338*l.* in 1866. We have no means of accounting for the large falling off in the exports in 1866, but the magnitude of the trade in this branch should prompt the inquiry whether there are not many articles capable of being produced to advantage in the Colony. The colonial produce exported amounted to 2,439*l.* in 1864, 4,094*l.* in 1865, and 2,338*l.* in 1866. There are iron and brass foundries in this city capable of turning out works of the greatest magnitude, or of the most delicate character, and there is a large trade done in machinery of various kinds. Tinware is also produced to a considerable extent here, so it might be supposed that many articles of hardware could also be produced, if a beginning were once made. It is well known that in Birmingham, the manufacturing centre for hardware, a great variety of articles are made by individuals who work in their own homes, or who hire "steam power" in small shops attached to large manufactories. For these independent labourers there would seem to be a favourable opening here, as they would save the whole of the intermediate profits.

Instruments—Musical.

The imports of pianofortes are very large, amounting to a value of 27,939*l.* in 1864, 26,712*l.* in 1865, and 19,313*l.* in 1866. There can be no reason why this manufacture should not flourish here as it does in the neighbouring Colony of Victoria, where there are no less than four manufacturers, one of them turning out a large number of very excellent instruments. Of course the chief materials are imported; but this Colony can

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

supply ornamental and other timber equal in quality and as cheap in price as that produced in any part of the world. The rapid growth of musical acquirement and taste promises that there must be an increasing demand for instruments.

Iron and Steel.

The import of these articles amounted to 148,152*l.* in 1864, 105,983*l.* in 1865, and 106,871*l.* in 1866. It is nevertheless true that there is an iron mine of great richness within 75 miles of Sydney, and that a sum of 80,000*l.* has been expended in buildings and plant for the manufacture. The Fitz Roy Iron Mine is situated on the Great Southern Railway, and there is abundance of coal and limestone in the immediate vicinity. It is admitted that the ore is of a singularly pure and valuable quality, being a brown hematite, containing 55·5 per cent. of metallic iron. Many hundred tons of iron have been made, of which castings of the finest character have been taken, and were exhibited at Paris in 1855, in London in 1862, and at the Melbourne Intercolonial Exhibition in 1866, on all which occasions the quality of the iron was highly spoken of. The supply is unlimited. The works are now, however, at a stand-still for want of additional capital. Those connected with similar undertakings in England will be able to judge the demand which this manufacture makes upon capital; they will also be able to estimate the value of such a mine in the immediate vicinity of a market where there is a certain prospect of an unlimited demand for the raw and manufactured product. It can be only a question of time, for this must eventually become the centre of the iron produce for the Australian Colonies.

Lead.

This article was imported to the extent of 11,019*l.* in 1864, 12,805*l.* in 1865, and 6,690*l.* in 1866. The Colony possesses this mineral in various places, but as yet it has not been systematically worked. This is another of the gifts of Providence that awaits the hand of the practical miner and the assistance of the capitalist to be made a fruitful source of wealth. The quantity is stated to be quite ample for all the requirements of this and the adjoining Colonies, but the deposit is unfortunately at some distance from easy land or water carriage.

Leather—Unmanufactured.

In this article our exports considerably exceed our imports, the exports for 1865 being 19,925*l.*, and the imports 6,569*l.*; and for 1866 the exports were 13,794*l.*, and the imports 6,661*l.* From the large number of animals slaughtered in the Colony it was to be expected that hides, both raw and tanned, would be an important article of trade, and it is found that there is an increasing demand for colonial-manufactured leather. There is an opening, however, for the manufacture of roans, bazils, and parchment, none of which are at present produced here, although thousands of skins of sheep and kangaroos are annually exported, and a large number annually wasted. The demand, though not large, is increasing, and considering the small value of the raw skin, it would appear that the trade must be a profitable one.

Leather—Manufactured. Boots and Shoes.

These were imported in 1864 to the amount of 355,281*l.*, in 1865 379,484*l.*, and in 1866 153,346*l.* It will be observed that there is a considerable falling off in the last year. This is occasioned by the rapid rise of the home manufacture of these articles by machinery. It is highly probable that only the finer descriptions of boots and shoes will ere long be imported, and such as are sewn by hand. In this department of industry the Colony bids fair to be comparatively independent. The chief cause of the prosperity of this branch of trade is, that machinery performs so important a part in its production. It may, therefore, serve as an encouragement to all manufactures where machinery supplies the want of skilled labour.

Matting and Rugs.

The value of the imports for 1864 was 4,388*l.*, 1865 12,937*l.*, and in 1866 1,646*l.* The facility with which cocoa-nut fibre could be obtained in this market has led to its being used in our prisons in the manufacture of coir mats and matting. The quality of the article is quite equal to any imported, and it is sold at a slightly less price. It would appear, therefore, that there is no prospect of this industry being likely to be taken up as a speculative industry; but at the same time, as there are unhappily a very large number of able-bodied prisoners in our gaols, for whom this manufacture appears to

supply fitting and convenient employment, it is worth inquiry whether the quantity produced could not be augmented, so as to do away with the necessity of such large importations.

Oil—Kerosene.

In 1865 there were 217,061 gallons of this oil, valued at 42,226*l.*, imported into this Colony; and, in 1866, the value of the imports was 27,428*l.* It is very satisfactory to know that there is every probability of our shortly being independent of foreign supplies, for the shale from which the oil is extracted has been found in immense deposits at Hartley, at Wollongong, and in other localities. There are now no less than five manufacturing establishments. At the Hartley mine there were 1,500 tons of oil-bearing shale extracted in 1866, valued at 6,000*l.* The quantity of crude oil now extracted per week is 3,500 gallons, and the quantity extracted during 1866 was 182,000 gallons. The demand for this new illuminating agent is very large in all the Australian Colonies, and, as yet, this is the only Colony that bids fair to be able to supply it at a price that shall compete with the imported article. As soon as some difficulties in the manufacture are overcome, there is no doubt but this will prove a most valuable addition to our native products.

Oil—Olive.

This was imported to the value of 1,110*l.* in 1865, and 1,363*l.* in 1866. With a climate and soil in which the olive thrives luxuriantly it may be hoped that this is a manufacture which will ere long take root amongst us, for in those countries where it is carried on it is found even more lucrative than the cultivation of the grape. The fruit is also largely imported, although it has been proved that the colonial product is quite equal in every respect to the best prepared in France.

Onions.

It appears that this is an article both of import and export, for in 1864 the imports amounted to 4,180*l.*, in 1865 3,572*l.*, and in 1866 to 3,095*l.*; while in 1864 we exported to the value of 1,979*l.*, and in 1865 4,083*l.* In the returns of exports they are valued at 1*l.* per cwt. At this price they should be a profitable crop. Considering the facile terms on which land is now to be had, and the certain demand that there always is for this valuable root, it seems strange that it should continue to be imported—it ought rather to be a large article of export.

Oilmen's Stores—Pickles, &c.

These were imported to the amount of 106,235*l.* in 1864, 88,391*l.* in 1865, and 99,621*l.* in 1866. A large proportion of these articles might be and ought to be made in the Colony. With a soil and climate capable of growing all the English fruits and vegetables, it is a reproach to our industry and enterprise that there is no manufactory for the preservation of fruit or the manufacture of pickles. Sugar is cheaper than in England, and in many parts of the Colony English fruits grow as well as they do in Tasmania, where large quantities of fruit are preserved and exported to this and the Victorian markets. The preservation of fruit is in Tasmania a highly important industry. The Colony produces the earthenware jars necessary to preserve them for market at a very cheap rate, and there is no apparent reason why a large home trade should not spring up in this article. The same remarks will apply to pickles. Vinegar can be produced here in any quantity, and the necessary vegetables are all grown in as great or even greater perfection than in England. A manufactory of glass jars has just been started, so that there is every facility to hand. Pickles and preserves for home consumption are made both in South Australia and Tasmania.

Pipes—Tobacco.

The import of this article amounted in 1864 to 5,550*l.*, in 1865 to 5,520*l.*, and in 1866 to 4,119*l.*; the greater proportion coming from Great Britain. It is probable that, although the Colony possesses the clay and even meerschaum or silicate of magnesia necessary for making the more expensive pipes, yet the perfection of machinery and the enormous production of the home factories, will for some time to come enable them to supply this market at a price with which colonial manufactures cannot compete. The article is mentioned to illustrate the extent of the market for such an apparently unimportant trifle.

Perfumery.

The imports in 1864 were 6,774*l.*, in 1865 10,400*l.*, and in 1866 5,389*l.* Attempts have recently been made, and with some success, to make perfumes from Australian plants. There are certain indigenous trees that yield very fragrant odours, and which may be found growing in the greatest profusion. The most important is the *Eucalyptus citroida*, from the leaves of which the scent known as the Verbenas can be procured in any quantity. The large cultivation of the orange, also, in the neighbourhood of Sydney, affords opportunities for the distillation therefrom of a variety of perfumes which have a large mercantile value.

Potatoes.

These were imported to the amount of 33,130*l.* in 1864, 36,118*l.* in 1865, and no less than 60,312*l.* in 1866. The exports were 9,268*l.* in 1864, 13,732*l.* in 1865, and 16,146*l.* in 1866. Here again is an evidence of deficient industry, or of dormant enterprise. It is certain that the Hunter, the Illawarra, and Shoalhaven districts have fertile land enough, not only to supply the needs of this Colony, but to raise sufficient to enable us to export potatoes to other Colonies; yet it appears that we receive from them large supplies. It is to be hoped that the rapid progress of settlement under the new Land Act will soon rectify this state of things.

Saddlery and Harness.

The imports in 1864 were 49,244*l.*, in 1865 60,676*l.*, and in 1866 51,493*l.* There is at present a large home manufacture independent of these extensive importations, and it appears that the colonial manufacture is increasing in importance, arising from the spread of the employment of machinery. There is, as will be seen, an opening for this manufacture, and the more so as there are fashions peculiar to the country which can best be adapted on the spot. Manufacturers should know that there is abundance of leather of the best quality for harness purposes, both plain and enamelled.

Salt.

There have not yet been discovered any natural deposits of salt, so that it is vain to think of competing with the large and cheap importations which take place from England. The importations amounted to 33,339*l.* in 1864, to 31,587*l.* in 1865, and to 5,932*l.* in 1866.

Soap.

In this article the value of the imports of 1865 amounted to 1,886*l.*, and in 1866 to 2,331*l.*, but during the same period there was exported in 1865 to the value of 11,255*l.*, and in 1866 5,235*l.*

Paper.

Of this article there was imported, in 1865, the value of 81,926*l.*, and in 1866 66,846*l.* The consumption of paper in this Colony is very large, especially of printing paper, to supply the numerous journals that are now published here. In the hope of supplying this demand a company has been established for the manufacture of printing paper, and a very substantial paper-mill has been erected on the George's River, at Liverpool, and a plant of first-class machinery imported. It is to be hoped that this effort will succeed, as it will give employment to a large number of women and children, as well as to skilled artisans. The supply of the raw material of rags is abundant from our own population, and as there is no other factory in the adjacent Colonies a further supply may be calculated on from thence, as soon as the article has a mercantile value. There can be no doubt but this is a most promising industry. The amount at present expended on the works is 30,000*l.* The company hope to commence the manufacture in a few months.

Timber.

Although this Colony produces an unlimited quantity of timber of the most durable and ornamental character, yet we find that the imports from foreign countries are very large. In the year 1865 the amount imported, of all descriptions, was valued at 71,815*l.*, and in 1866 was 22,977*l.* At the same time we exported cedar to the value of 8,135*l.* in 1865, and 13,968*l.* in 1866, and hardwood to the value of 21,675*l.* in 1865, and to

8,013*l.* in 1866. Our total exports of timber in 1865 were 36,105*l.* The most valuable timber that this Colony possesses at present is the cedar, which is greatly in demand in the adjoining Colonies for the manufacture of ornamental furniture. There is no doubt, however, but there are other descriptions of timber of equal beauty, and that will eventually come into use. Considering the inexhaustible supply from the forests which are yet untouched, this must be regarded as a very important item in the wealth of the Colony.

Tobacco.

The imports of manufactured tobacco for the year 1865 were 1,295,427 lbs., valued at 132,519*l.* The value of the imports for 1866 was 74,484*l.* Of unmanufactured tobacco the imports were 184,948 lbs. in 1865, valued at 12,610*l.*, while the value of the import in 1866 was 17,090*l.* Cigars were imported to a value of 35,937*l.* in 1865, and 13,790*l.* in 1866. In view of these enormous figures for a population of about 150,000 males (for females and children must be excluded when considering the consumption of this article), we may perhaps find some explanation of the alleged inactivity and want of energy that has been stated to be a characteristic of the inhabitants of the Colony. But the above figures, large as they are, do not represent the whole amount of tobacco consumed in the Colony, for there is a very large home manufacture, amounting to 8,619 cwt. in 1864, 8,006 cwt. in 1865, and 7,755 cwt. in 1866. The quantity imported, grown, and manufactured in the year 1865 gives a total supply of upwards of 16 lbs. a head to each of the 150,000 males assumed to be of age to become consumers of the article. It is not asserted that this amount was consumed, but that was the supply of the year. Considering the large expenditure for this luxury, it is satisfactory to find that the taste of the population for the native-grown article is on the increase. The improvements that have been made in the manufacture, and the high price of the American growth, have combined to establish a demand for the home manufacture, especially in the country districts, which will eventually largely supplant foreign importations.

Wine.

The imports in 1864 were valued at 137,010*l.*, in 1865 124,503*l.*, and in 1866 at 128,202*l.* At the same time, the exports were valued at 73,188*l.* in 1864, 61,136*l.* in 1865, and 3,847*l.* in 1866. The wine produced in the Colony during 1864 was 136,976 gallons, in 1865 was 161,298 gallons, and in 1866 was 168,123 gallons. There is reason to believe that the taste for colonial wine is on the increase. The planting of vineyards is becoming more popular, and the prejudices which have for a long time past hindered the progress of this important industry are being gradually dissipated. The opinions of competent judges, expressed at various Exhibitions of Wines of the growth of New South Wales, have been uniformly favourable. At the recent Intercolonial Exhibition at Melbourne, where a critical examination was made of their qualities, the highest testimonials were given them for their purity, their flavour, and their body. At a meeting of the Medical Society of Victoria, it was recommended unanimously that colonial wine should be administered in hospitals and asylums, in place of the imported ports and sherries that have hitherto been employed; and one wine specially noticed for this purpose was the growth of Albury, in the Murray River District in New South Wales. This district is also remarkable for the production of a high class and generous wine, which is much appreciated in the Colony of Victoria, where it has a considerable sale. The recent immigration of a large number of German residents from South Australia will also tend to increase the cultivation of the vine in this district. The wines of the Hunter District are also rapidly acquiring repute. In the Colony of Victoria the consumption of colonial wine has been adopted to a much larger extent by the town population than has been the case in New South Wales, and it is rapidly on the increase. There is no doubt but the recent Exhibition there tended to stimulate this demand, and it would be desirable if some encouragement could be given to wine-growers in this Colony, to place a wholesome and invigorating beverage before the public. When one considers the enormous consumption of spirits and highly fortified wines in this Colony, and calculates the vast sums of money that are annually expended upon them, and the injurious results to the population, the desirability of spreading a taste for the pure and wholesome product of the Colony becomes very evident. The only reason that these wines are not in larger demand is, that the public generally are ignorant of their quality. It is to be hoped that increased attention will be paid to this valuable industry, and that before long the products of our vineyards will form an important item in our exports.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

Imports.

The total value of articles imported was 9,403,192*l.* This amount is 1,232,315*l.* short of the importations last year, viz. :—

		1865.	1866.
		£	£
From United Kingdom	- - - -	4,349,371	3,352,768
„ British Colonies	- - - -	4,978,706	4,504,067
„ Foreign States	- - - -	1,307,430	1,546,357
Total	- - - -	10,635,507	9,403,192

Our importations from the United Kingdom were nearly 1,000,000*l.* sterling less than 1865, and from British Colonies over 474,000*l.* The imports from foreign states have increased by the sum of nearly 239,000*l.* sterling.
The imports were at the rate of 22*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* per head of the population, and in 1865 26*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* per head.

Exports.

The total value of exports shows a small increase upon the returns of the former year, viz. :—

		1865.	1866.
		£	£
To United Kingdom	- - - -	3,319,628	3,162,615
„ British Colonies	- - - -	6,045,856	6,466,038
„ Foreign States	- - - -	198,334	285,186
Total	- - - -	9,563,818	9,913,839

The exports averaged 23*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.* per head of the population in 1865, and 23*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* per head in 1866.
From the ports in the Colony the export of articles of colonial produce amounted in value to 6,057,585*l.*, and during the last ten years the articles of colonial produce amounted to 44,174,730*l.* This amount would be considerably augmented were the values of the articles exported overland in years gone by recorded in the office.

Shipping—Inwards.

Both the inward and outward shipping returns show a large increase in number and tonnage, compared with the records of any previous period.
Since 1857 the vessels that have visited the ports in the Colony have increased very close upon a thousand in number, whilst the tonnage has more than doubled.
The arrivals during the last five years are appended :—

		Number.	Tonage.
1862	- - -	1,493	454,837
1863	- - -	1,494	479,827
1864	- - -	1,849	607,168
1865	- - -	1,912	635,888
1866	- - -	2,099	730,354

Percentage of
arrivals at
ports.
Arrivals with
cargoes, &c.
Nationality.
British.

57 per cent. of the arrivals were at the port of Sydney, 37 per cent. at Newcastle, and 6 per cent. at Grafton, Eden, and Richmond.
1,216 vessels arrived with cargoes, and 883 in ballast, 770 being at the port of Newcastle, the principal coaling depôt of the Australian Colonies.
Of the arrivals, 1,962 vessels were British, of the measurement of 673,392 tons, with an aggregate crew of 35,091 men. This would give, on an average, nearly 18 seamen to every vessel, or one seaman to every 19 tons. Each vessel averaged 343 tons.

Then comes 137 foreign vessels, of 56,962 tons measurement, with an aggregate crew of 1,790 men. This would give, on an average, 13 seamen to each vessel, or one seaman to every 31 tons. Each vessel averaged 415 tons.

From the foregoing figures, it will be observed that the British vessels were manned far superior to the foreign ones.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

Foreign.
Manning of
vessels.

Outwards.

As a matter of course, the outward shipping has increased in the same ratio as the inward shipping.

The number of vessels cleared at ports in the Colony was 2,259, of an aggregate of 784,381 tons. Of these, 2,117 were British, of the measurement of 727,525 tons, with an aggregate crew of 38,108 men; and 142 were foreign vessels, of an aggregate of 56,856 tons, and 1,811 seamen.

Only 115 vessels, of 40,074 tons, left in ballast, whilst 2,144 vessels, of an aggregate of 744,307 tons, left with cargoes.

The vessels that left the ports in ballast were 110 British, of 38,329 tons, and five foreign, of 1,745 tons.

The principal countries and colonies to which the vessels were bound were:—

Clearances.
Departures
with cargoes,
&c.
Nationality of
vessels in
ballast.
Countries to
which
departed.

	British.		Foreign.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Chili - - - - -	20	9,800	10	3,518
China - - - - -	93	50,176	37	14,462
Great Britain - - - - -	40	35,427	1	711
Java - - - - -	9	3,931	14	6,518
New Zealand - - - - -	403	115,339	7	1,836
Queensland - - - - -	383	119,509	—	—
Russia - - - - -	33	13,357	8	3,014
South Australia - - - - -	199	65,654	3	632
South Sea Islands - - - - -	48	10,202	6	2,418
Tasmania - - - - -	98	23,693	2	364
United States - - - - -	47	23,572	2	724
Victoria - - - - -	655	205,047	4	1,374

The remaining vessels directed their compasses to different parts of the globe.

Not a single vessel, out of the many hundreds that visited the port of Newcastle in ballast, left without a freight of goods, as will be observed from this table:—

Departures
from New-
castle.

	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British:—				
Sydney - - - - -	989	389,075	98	33,418
Newcastle - - - - -	936	284,492	—	—
Grafton, Eden, and Richmond - - - - -	82	15,629	12	4,911
Total, British - - - - -	2,007	689,196	110	38,329
Foreign:—				
Sydney - - - - -	81	31,028	5	1,745
Newcastle - - - - -	56	24,083	—	—
Total, Foreign - - - - -	137	55,111	5	1,745
General Total - - - - -	2,144	744,307	115	40,074

Nationality.

The departures are in excess of the arrivals, as follows:—

Excess of
departures
over arrivals.

	Number.	Tonnage.	Crews.
Vessels Inwards - - - - -	2,099	730,354	36,881
Vessels Outwards - - - - -	2,259	784,381	39,919
Excess of Departures - - - - -	160	54,027	3,038

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

PART IV.

MILLS AND MANUFACTURES.

Mills.

The number of mills for grinding and dressing grain has fallen off from 175 in 1865 to 159 in 1866. The number is but two in excess of the returns for 1857. In 1860 there were 193 mills.

Manufactories,
works, &c.

The manufactories, works, &c., number 2,389, against 2,133 the year before, classified as follows:—

* Connected with or dependent upon agriculture	-	-	-	1,125
Working on raw materials the production of the pastoral interest	-	-	-	250
Manufacture of articles of food of which the raw material is not the produce of agriculture, and of articles of drink	-	-	-	37
Building materials and plastic manufactures	-	-	-	361
Machine manufactories	-	-	-	108
Miscellaneous works, &c.	-	-	-	508
Total number	-	-	-	2,389

Woollens.

Two woollen manufactories turned out 172,720 yards, against 145,707 yards the year before.

During the last ten years 1,118,314 yards were manufactured, of which 514,717 yards were recorded during the first quinquennial period, and 603,597 yards the second quinquennial period.

Soap.

The manufacture of soap is on the decline. In 1864, 74,900 cwt. was manufactured; in 1865, 71,896 cwt.; and in 1866, 68,456 cwt.

Twenty-six establishments were in existence in 1864, and also 1865, and in 1866, twenty-three.

Tobacco.

Notwithstanding the duty of 2s. and 1s. per lb. respectively upon imported tobacco, manufactured and unmanufactured, there is a falling off in the manufacture of the colonial weed since 1864, viz.:—

1864	-	-	-	-	8,619½ cwt.
1865	-	-	-	-	8,006 „
1866	-	-	-	-	7,755 „

There were 39 establishments in 1864, 33 in 1865, and 37 in 1866.

Boiling-down
establish-
ments.

The high price of meat, both here and in the sister Colonies, has had its effect upon the boiling-down system. This is the only year during the last decade that sheep were free from the pot; and only 2,868 head of cattle were slaughtered for tallow, against 44,103 head the year previous. The production of tallow is consequently remarkably small compared with former years, viz.:—

				Slaughtered.		Tallow produced.
				Sheep.	Cattle.	
				No.	No.	Cwt.
1864	-	-	-	39,927	60,090	75,241
1865	-	-	-	10,006	44,103	73,703
1866	-	-	-	—	2,868	19,416

It should be observed that a large quantity of the tallow produced is from the refuse from butchers' shops.

Fifty-seven establishments were in existence in 1864, 52 in 1865, and 45 in 1866.

In 1864, 4,569 pigs produced 19,736 lbs. of lard; in 1865, 2,763 pigs produced 10,182 lbs.; and in 1866, 1,026 pigs produced 6,284 lbs.

* Exclusive of 159 mills for grinding and dressing grain.

PART V.

PRODUCTION.

The quantity of gold brought to the Mint by escort has been on the decline of late years, and each successive year since 1862 shows a marked falling off in the returns from each of the gold districts, viz. :—

Gold by escort.

	Western District.		Southern District.		Northern District.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Ozs.	£	Ozs.	£	Ozs.	£	Ozs.	£
1862 - - -	321,720	1,219,752	225,576	886,717	28,242	106,065	575,538	2,212,534
1863 - - -	215,443	818,741	170,766	669,700	37,198	140,607	423,407	1,629,049
1864 - - -	149,709	562,425	139,270	544,253	27,450	104,491	316,429	1,211,169
1865 - - -	141,251	536,395	117,319	457,288	22,240	84,222	280,810	1,077,905
1866 - - -	130,835	499,794	88,810	345,436	21,844	83,045	241,489	928,275

Since 1862, the receipts have fallen off to the weight of 334,049 ounces, of the value of 1,284,259*l*.

The miners' rights issued also show a corresponding decrease, viz. :—

Miners' rights.

				Number.
1862 - - -	-	-	-	25,038
1863 - - -	-	-	-	20,648
1864 - - -	-	-	-	15,508
1865 - - -	-	-	-	15,458
1866 - - -	-	-	-	* 13,905

The gold averaged in the Western district 3*l*. 16*s*. 4*d*. per oz.; in the Southern district, 3*l*. 17*s*. 9*d*. per oz. ; and in the Northern district, 3*l*. 16*s*. per oz.

Average price of gold per oz.

Coal Mines.

The coal mines were actively worked during the year. The quantity raised weighed 774,238 tons, of the value of 324,049*l*. This exceeds the previous year's operations by 188,713 tons, valued at 49,745*l*.

Coal raised, and value.

Over half a million of tons were shipped to the Australian Colonies and Foreign States, as follows :—

Coal shipped to.

				Tons.	Value.
					£
Victoria - - -	-	-	-	143,746	67,908
New Zealand - - -	-	-	-	95,446	47,194
Queensland - - -	-	-	-	10,406	5,039
Tasmania - - -	-	-	-	13,203	6,095
South Australia - - -	-	-	-	81,079	32,708
Singapore - - -	-	-	-	11,604	7,134
Hong Kong - - -	-	-	-	15,512	13,412
Shanghai - - -	-	-	-	63,593	45,701
Petropaulovski - - -	-	-	-	11,984	10,382
United States - - -	-	-	-	48,242	29,075
Java - - -	-	-	-	11,999	7,657
Valparaiso - - -	-	-	-	8,044	7,687
Twelve other places - - -	-	-	-	26,047	20,596
Total - - -	-	-	-	540,905	300,588

There were twenty-five mines, five of which were inactive, against twenty-four the year before.

Mines.

* The miners' rights issued in the Adelong and Araluen districts for the last half of the year could not be ascertained. The figures for the first half of the year have been substituted.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

Copper mines.

Of late years greater attention has been paid to the working of the copper mines. In 1865, 1,943 tons of ore were raised, valued at 37,345*l*. The returns for this year are too incomplete to admit of comparison, but at the Cadai and Icely mines in the Orange district, it appears there were 304 tons of ore raised, of the value of 23,390*l*.; and at the Currowang mine near Goulburn, 947 tons were raised, but the value is not returned.

Export of
copper.

The quantity of copper and ore exported in 1866 was, to

Great Britain—		£	
Copper	- - -	255 tons, value	18,905
Ore	- - -	20 " "	1,800
Total	- - -	275 " "	20,705
Victoria—			
Copper ore	- - -	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " "	85
In all	- - -	277 $\frac{3}{4}$ " "	20,790

Oil mines.

The discovery of oil mines in the districts of Hartley, Wollongong, and Camden, has added a new and important feature in the Colony's history.

Kerosene shale
raised.

It appears from the returns of 1865—the first year of their introduction into the tables—that 710 tons of Kerosene shale were raised, of the estimated value of 2,450*l*.

Hartley
Kerosene Oil
and Paraffine
Company.

In 1866, the Hartley Kerosene Oil and Paraffine Company raised at their mine 1,500 tons of shale, valued at 6,000*l*. The weekly production of crude oil by this company amounts to 3,500 tons, making a total quantity for the year of 182,000 tons.

Western
Kerosene Oil
Company.

The Western Kerosene Oil Company has not yet commenced active operations, awaiting the receipt of the machinery from England, but 97 tons, of the value of 392*l*., were raised as samples, to show the quality of the article to consumers.

Wollongong
mine.

At the Wollongong mine, 1,173 tons were raised, valued at 1,759*l*.

Five manufactories are in course of erection, and when in thorough working order will give an impetus to mining operations.

It is a matter of regret that the Fitzroy iron mine, producing material of an excellent quality, was not worked during the year. In 1865, 4,000 tons of ore were raised, of the value of 1,500*l*.

*Agriculture.*Occupiers of
land.

The number of occupiers of land (excluding those occupied for pastoral purposes) increased from 22,509 in 1865, to 24,629 in 1866; of these, 15,173 were freeholders, and 9,456 were leaseholders. The freeholders have increased at the rate of nearly 10 per cent., and the leaseholders nearly 9 per cent.

Holdings.

The total extent of land held increased from 7,277,255 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1865, to 7,448,200 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1866, the increase being 170,945, or 2·35 per cent. With respect to tenure, 4,916,916 acres, or 66 per cent. of the whole area occupied, were held in freehold; and 2,531,283 acres, or the remaining 34 per cent., were leaseholds.

Average pos-
session of
holders.

Upon an average, each freeholder possesses 324 acres, and each leaseholder has possession of 267 acres. With respect to cultivation, the freeholders had barely 6 per cent. of their land under crop, and the leaseholders 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; nevertheless, it is noticeable that the cultivation of the land is largely on the increase, 452,850 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres having been turned up by the plough in 1866, against 381,400 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres during the year 1865, the increase being 71,450 acres, or 18·73 per cent.

Enclosed
lands.

The enclosed lands not in cultivation have increased from 1,980,547 acres in 1865, to 2,374,201 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres in 1866, being an increase of 393,654 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, or 19·87 per cent.

Unenclosed
lands.

The lands unenclosed decreased from 4,915,308 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres in 1865, to 4,621,148 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1866, the decrease being 294,159 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, or nearly 6 per cent.

Acreage under
crop.

The quantity of land under crop was 451,225 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres, against 378,254 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1865. This is an increase of 72,970 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, or 19·29 per cent. on the acreage under crop in the previous year.

Wheat for
grain.

It is gratifying to be able to remark that since the foundation of the Colony, in no single year has the wheat crop been so large nor the produce been so great as during 1866, the acreage sown being 175,033 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, with a produce of 2,226,027 bushels, against 131,653 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres, producing 1,013,863 bushels, the year before. The produce per acre in 1866 was 12 bushels 43 lbs., against 7 bushels 42 lbs. in 1865.

Produce per
acre.

The greatest average produce per acre was in 1856 and 1858, when the yield was nearly 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre. The lowest was in 1863 and 1865, when the yield was about 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels per acre.

The ratio of produce to the population was in 1864 3 bushels 10 lbs. per head, in 1865 2 bushels 27 lbs. per head, and in 1866 5 bushels 5 lbs. per head. Taking seven bushels per head as the average rate of consumption, including seed wheat, we have not yet succeeded in growing enough for our own requirements, being about two bushels short per head. It is satisfactory to know, however, that the large harvest in the neighbouring Colonies of Victoria and South Australia, both of which Colonies have grown during last year a surplus, can make up for any deficiency here. It is to be hoped, also, that the extended settlement of population on the soil, and the progress that is now making with our railways, will in future render us independent of foreign supplies.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.
Produce to
population.

The maize crop for grain shows a large increase on the quantity grown during the previous year. In 1866 119,519 acres were sown with seed, against 113,442½ acres the year before, being an increase of 6,072½ acres, or 5·25 per cent. The produce amounted to 3,878,064 bushels, or 32 bushels 24 lbs. per acre, being in excess of the previous year of 1,118,160 bushels, or 8 bushels 5 lbs. per acre. The yield of the crop of 1865 was remarkably small, only averaging 24 bushels 19 lbs. per acre. There is one product of maize to which it would be desirable if more attention was directed, namely, maizena, or corn flour, as it is sometimes called, which is an admirable substitute for arrowroot. This preparation of maize is largely imported here from England, and a manufactory of it has recently been established in Paramatta. There have been two manufactories at work in Melbourne, which are supplied with the grain from this Colony, producing maizena for home consumption at a price which does not permit importation of foreign supplies. If this is possible in Melbourne, where they have to import the grain from here, it would appear certain that there is an opening for such a manufacture here.

Maize for
grain.

The barley crop also exhibits a very considerable increase on the crop of the previous year, the figures being, 1866, 6,211 acres; 1865, 5,843¾ acres; being an increase of 367¼ acres. The produce was 91,741 bushels, or 33,371 bushels in excess of the previous year. At the same time, it is worth notice that the imports of malt were 44,408 bushels in 1865, valued at 21,892*l.*, and 48,539 bushels in 1866, valued at 23,822*l.* It is well worth consideration whether, with such a demand, more attention should not be paid to the cultivation of barley, for there can be no doubt that when our railway system is extended into districts where the climate is more suitable for the brewing of beer, this industry will become an important one.

Barley for
grain.

The breadth of land sown with oats for grain amounted to 14,914½ acres in 1866, against 10,939 acres the year before, the increase being 3,975½ acres. The produce amounted to 304,028 bushels, being 188,023 bushels in excess of the previous year. The average yield to the acre was 20 bushels 15 lbs. in 1866, while in 1865 it was only 10 bushels 24 lbs. Here, too, it is satisfactory to notice increased activity in the cultivation of the soil, which tends to show that the population is gradually settling down to permanent occupations, and developing the real wealth of the country. This is by far the largest crop of oats that was ever grown in the Colony.

Oats for grain.

The quantity of land under cultivation for potatoes was 18,809¾ acres in 1866, against 15,209¾ in 1865, the increase being 3,600 acres. The yield was 43,869½ tons, or 12,502¼ tons in excess of 1865. The average crop was 2 tons 6 cwt. to the acre, while in 1865 it was 2 tons 1 cwt. There has been a very large increase in the cultivation of this valuable crop during some years past, there being double the quantity of land now applied to it that there was in 1858, when there were 8,006 acres planted, giving a crop of 21,491 tons. But large though this increase is, it has not kept pace with the requirements of the population, for there were imports of potatoes from Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, to the amount of 9,904 tons, valued at 60,312*l.*, during the year 1866. It is, therefore, evident that there is a large field for greater enterprise in the cultivation of this important root, which ought to appear among our exports instead of being largely imported.

Potato crop.

The quantity of land under hay was 74,742¾ acres in the year 1866, against 61,909½ acres in 1865, showing an increase of 12,833¼ acres over the previous year. The produce was 118,010 tons, against 54,230 tons in 1865, showing an increase of 63,780 tons, or more than 100 per cent. The average to the acre was 1 ton 11 cwt. in 1866, and in 1865 only 17 cwt. to the acre. This is an article of export, the amount of 2,843½ tons having been exported in 1865, valued at 16,589*l.*, and 2,156½ tons in 1866, valued 13,149*l.* The chief market for our hay is Queensland, and it is an article for which the demand is likely to be constant. With the facilities this Colony possesses for growing lucerne upon the alluvial bottoms, it should be a large article of export.

Hay crop.

It is to be regretted that this article does not appear among the productions of the past year. In the year ending 31 March 1865, there was reported to be 175½ acres under crop, producing 29,012 lbs. of cotton. In the year ending March 1866, there were only 11 acres, yielding 380 lbs.; and last year the cultivation appears to have

Cotton.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

ceased altogether. The returns to hand do not give the reason for this falling off, but it is doubtless in consequence of the reduction in price on the reopening of the American market. But while the production of this Colony has ceased, the neighbouring Colony of Queensland has gone largely into the cultivation, and cotton now forms a considerable item in the exports thence.

Tobacco.

The tobacco crop is smaller this year than the previous, there having been 1,326 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres under crop, against 1,499 acres for the year 1865. The produce was 2,477 cwt., against 7,469 cwt. in 1865, being a decrease of 4,992 cwt. Notwithstanding this decrease, the taste for colonial-grown tobacco is gradually spreading, especially in the country districts. The reason of the falling off is doubtless in consequence of the very large imports that took place on the cessation of the American war; but the high price that prevailed during that period had the effect of stimulating the colonial product, and establishing a trade that promises to become a permanent one, especially as the manufacture has recently been very much improved.

Sugar-cane
crop.

The cultivation of the sugar-cane has lately attracted considerable attention, and it now begins to show prominently amongst the returns. The year 1864 was the first year when it was noticed in the annual reports, and the progress since then has been as follows :—

For the year ending 31 March 1864,	2 acres,	producing	280 lbs.
1865,	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ „	„	4,478 lbs.
1866,	141 „	„	5,700 lbs.
1867,	116 $\frac{1}{4}$ „	„	17,780 lbs.

It will be observed that, although the plantation was not so large in 1865–6 as in 1866–7, the produce is considerably larger, from the canes in the latter year coming into bearing. This is probably the case in some of the districts named in the present returns, viz. :—Tweed River, three acres; Brisbane Water, 27 acres; and Port Macquarie, 47 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres, amounting together to 77 acres under cultivation, but no produce is returned; probably the crops had not arrived at maturity at the date of the return. At Kiama 13 acres are reported under crop, but only 40 lbs. of sugar have been made. There is no doubt that a great deal of attention has lately been directed to this important product, and that the result will be seen shortly in the extended production of colonial sugar, either from the sugar-cane or from the beet-root. It is stated that experiments at Kiama and at Port Macquarie have shown that a product of three tons of sugar can be obtained from one acre of sugar-cane. Samples of the sugar have been exhibited, and have been much approved. Considering the vast amount of sugar consumed in the Colony—the imports for 1865 being valued at 534,953*l.*, and for 1866 at 614,848*l.*—it is highly important that every effort should be made to encourage its growth and manufacture. There is every reason to believe that the climate and the soil in many parts of this Colony are admirably adapted to the plant, and it is to be hoped the efforts now making to establish this industry on a large scale will meet with success.

Green food
for cattle.

The quantity of land laid down in green food for cattle was 21,112 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, being a little short of the acreage of the previous year, namely 21,252 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

Gardens and
orchards.

Gardens and orchards, and all other in crop, amounted to 15,219 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1866, against 12,238 $\frac{3}{4}$ in 1865. These show a gradual yearly increase, and when the maturity and growth of the trees are considered, must indicate a very large augmentation in the fruit production of the Colony. From this circumstance, and from the facilities that will be afforded when the railway system is opened further into the interior, it may be expected that fruit of all descriptions will be both abundant and cheap, and that the imports of green fruit, which now amount to upwards of 20,000*l.* per annum, will no longer be required.

Vineyards.

The cultivation of the vine is also increasing, although not so fast as might be expected, considering the increasing popularity of colonial wine. The returns of land under cultivation for wine-making purposes for the last three years are as follow :—

	Acreage.	Wine produced.	Brandy manufactured.
		Gallons.	Gallons.
For the year ending March 31, 1865	945 $\frac{1}{4}$	161,298 $\frac{1}{4}$	3,077
„ 1866	1,243 $\frac{1}{4}$	168,123	1,439 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ 1867	1,357 $\frac{1}{2}$	242,183	3,176

The produce per acre in 1865 was $170\frac{3}{4}$ gallons; in 1866, $135\frac{1}{4}$ gallons; and in 1867, $178\frac{1}{2}$ gallons. NEW SOUTH WALES.

Although the Colony is able to produce wine which will bear favourable comparison with the average of imported wine, and which is undoubtedly more wholesome than many of the highly fortified and manufactured wines which are so largely drunk, it yet appears that the importation exceeds the colonial production to a very considerable extent. Attention has been recently drawn, however, to the valuable qualities of the wines produced in these Colonies, and a large demand has sprung up in the neighbourhood of the vineyards, where it is sold at a very cheap price. The value of colonial wine exported in 1865 was 5,038*l.*, and in 1866 3,847*l.* It may reasonably be expected that in the course of a few years this will become an article of large export to Europe, India, and the neighbouring Colonies.

The cultivation of the grape for table use is also increasing, the following being the returns for the last three years :—

		Acreage.	Quantity obtained.
Year ending March 31, 1865	- -	332 $\frac{3}{4}$	Tons. 345
" " 1866	- -	395 $\frac{3}{4}$	560
" " 1867	- -	573 $\frac{1}{2}$	668

The quantity of land planted for vineyards which was unproductive was as follows :—
Year ending 31 March 1865, 571 acres; 1866, 487 acres; and 1867, 668 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres.

Pastoral.

The returns of live stock show a large increase in the number of sheep, but a decrease in horses, cattle, and pigs, as will be seen by the following figures. Live stock. Horses were 282,587 in 1865, against 278,437 in 1866, showing a reduction of 84,150. Cattle were 1,961,905 in 1865, against 1,771,809 in 1866, showing a reduction of 190,096; pigs were 146,901 in 1865, against 137,915 in 1866, showing a reduction of 8,986. But, on the other hand, the sheep in 1865 numbered 8,132,511, and in 1866 were 11,562,155, showing an increase of 3,429,644. This number of sheep will give nearly 27 per head of the population. This large increase has had its effect on the quantity of wool shipped, which has increased from 18,764,482 lbs. in 1865 to 21,663,634 lbs. in 1866, besides which there has been an export of 15,317,051 lbs. of wool overland, making together a total of 36,980,685 lbs., being the largest quantity ever shipped from the Colony, even when Victoria and Queensland formed portions of its territory. Taken at a valuation of 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb., the value of the year's crop is 2,773,554*l.*, or at the rate of 6*l.* 4*s.* per head of the population.

The number of sheep and cattle in the Colony on the 1st of January 1867, as set forth in the returns made by the Clerks of Petty Sessions, under the Acts of Parliament 30 Vict., Nos. 11 and 16, was 13,072,838 sheep, and 1,729,766 head of cattle, to which should be added 100,000 sheep estimated as the number possessed by owners of 500 and under, who are not required to make returns, and 80,000 head of cattle belonging to owners of 24 head and under. The two together making 13,172,838 sheep and 1,809,766 head of cattle depasturing in the Colony. This is 1,610,683 sheep and 37,957 head of cattle in excess of the numbers collected on the 31st March 1867, by the Police. Collections by clerks of Petty Sessions, under 30 Vict.

Under the above circumstances there is, I think, very fair grounds of complaint as to inaccuracy in the returns as collected by the police, and I would beg to suggest that they be relieved of the duty, and that a sum of money—say, two thousand pounds—be asked from Parliament to enable the Registrar General to employ his own officers in the collection of the returns of agriculture and live stock, &c. Present mode of collection unsatisfactory.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

PART VI.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

Under this heading will be found returns relative to the Income and Expenditure of the Government, the operations of our Banking Institutions, and of the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint. There is also a detailed account of the Taxes, Fees, &c. chargeable in the various Departments of the Government.

Banks. The number of Banking Institutions in the Colony is nine, against ten* the year previous.

Rate of discount. The rate of discount charged by each of the Banks on local bills was,—under 95 days' currency, 8 per cent. per annum; from 95 to 125 days' currency, 9 per cent. per annum; and above this period, 10 per cent. per annum.

Rate of exchange, purchase rate. The maximum purchase rate of exchange on bills on London, ranged from 1 per cent. discount to $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. premium, against a similar rate of exchange in 1865. The maximum purchase rate ranged from 1 per cent. premium to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount. The maximum selling rate was 2 per cent. premium. The minimum selling rate was $\frac{1}{2}$ premium and par.

Selling rate. Depositors in the Banks were allowed interest at the rate of from 3 to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, for the following periods, viz. :—

On fixed deposits for 3 months, 3 and 4 per cent.
 „ 6 months, 5 and 6 and $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
 „ 12 months, 6 and $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Coin and bullion. The coin and bullion lying in the Banks and the Mint, on the 31st December 1866, show a small decrease of 29,934*l.* on the figures of the previous year, viz. :—

	Mint.		Banks.		Total.
	In Coin.	Bullion.	In Coin.	Bullion.	
1865 - - - -	£ —	£ 37,459	£ 1,228,450	£ 120,801	£ 1,386,710
1866 - - - -	240	18,635	1,259,150	78,751	1,356,776
Increase - - - -	240	—	30,700	—	—
Decrease - - - -	—	18,824	—	42,050	29,934

The average amount each Bank had lying in their coffers on the 31st December, in coin and bullion, was 148,655*l.*

Paper currency. The amount of paper currency in circulation on the 31st December was 673,847*l.* against 760,258*l.* the same period of the former year, the decrease being 86,411*l.*, or a little over 11 per cent. The circulation averaged 674,507*l.* against 731,739*l.* in 1865.

Liabilities. The Banks have lessened their liabilities by the sum of 5,730*l.* compared with the former year. In 1866 they stood at 6,956,584*l.*, and in 1865, 6,962,314*l.*

Assets. Their assets show a falling off of a trifle over 12,000*l.*, viz. :—

	31st December,		Decrease.
	1865.	1866.	
	£ 10,947,162	£ 10,935,031	£ 12,131

Deposits. The deposits show an increase of over 3 per cent. on the previous year.

In 1865 they were - - - £5,827,098
 Increase in 1866 - - - - 176,915

Total, 1866 - - - 6,004,013

* The Agra Bank ceased operations this year.

Their discounts were 7,458,200*l.*, against 7,100,361*l.* in 1865. Increase, 357,839*l.*

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

The number of depositors in the New South Wales Savings' Bank has increased from 17,472 in 1865, to 17,576 in 1866, the increase being 104, as follows:—

Discounts.
Savings' Bank.

	Sydney.		Country.	Total.
	Depositors.	Prisoners of the Crown.	Depositors.	
1866	13,439	1,077	3,060	17,576
1865	13,428	1,078	2,966	17,472
Increase	11	—	94	104
Decrease	—	1	—	—

The amount deposited shows a falling off of 36,412*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.*, compared with 1865, as will be observed from the following table:—

	Sydney.		Country Depositors.	Total.
	Depositors.	Prisoners of the Crown.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1866	575,649 13 10	9,778 10 0	122,386 19 4	707,815 3 2
1865	607,899 8 11	9,321 3 2	127,007 0 0	744,227 12 1
Decrease	32,249 15 1	—	4,620 0 8	36,412 8 11
Increase	—	457 6 10	—	—

In 1866 the depositors in the Bank at Sydney averaged 42*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* per head, and in 1865, 45*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, showing a decrease of 2*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* per head. In the Country Districts the depositors averaged 39*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* per head in 1866, and in 1865, 42*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* per head, or 2*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* in excess of the previous year.

Depositors,
Sydney.

By way of illustrating the working of this Institution during the last ten years, I attach a table showing the number of depositors, amounts deposited, the average amount to each depositor, as well as the proportion of deposits to each depositor.

Year.	Population.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Average Sum deposited to each Depositor.	Proportion of Depositors to Population.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1857	305,847	11,269	638,480 11 0	56 13 2	1 in 27
1858	342,062	11,321	579,931 17 6	51 4 6	1 " 30
1859	336,572	11,918	568,187 19 3	47 13 4	1 " 28
1860	348,546	12,027	557,196 14 0	46 6 6	1 " 29
1861	358,278	13,282	615,408 17 1	46 6 8	1 " 26
1862	367,495	14,956	716,381 16 6	47 17 11	1 " 24
1863	378,934	16,332	767,947 13 1	47 0 5	1 " 23
1864	392,589	16,959	766,746 12 10	45 4 2	1 " 23
1865	411,388	17,472	744,277 12 1	42 11 11	1 " 23
1866	431,414	17,576	707,815 3 2	40 5 5	1 " 24

Comparing 1866 with 1865, we find a reduction in the deposits to each depositor of 2*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, and the ratio of the depositors to the population has decreased from 1 in 23 to 1 in 24.

Five per cent. was the rate of interest paid to depositors up to 100*l.*; beyond this amount no interest is allowed.

Rate of
interest.

Seven per cent. was the amount charged on loans on mortgage.

Charge on
loans.
Branch Royal
Mint.

The next return relates to the working of the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint, which was established here on the 14th May 1865.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

The amount of gold dust or bullion received for coinage shows a large increase on the receipts of the previous year, as will be gathered from the following table :—

Receipt of gold.	Name of Colony.	1865.			1866.		
		Quantity.	Value.		Quantity.	Value.	
Colonies from which the gold came.		Ozs.	£	s. d.	Ozs.	£	s. d.
	New South Wales	300,277·57	1,153,215	8 0	269,239·71	1,035,513	0 3
	Victoria	82,413·25	337,575	5 5	152,523·42	627,831	12 10
	New Zealand	186,778·94	747,918	7 7	290,991·98	1,172,307	9 5
	Queensland	26,578·82	102,924	13 1	20,713·12	77,813	12 8
	Tasmania	—	—	—	1,179·31	4,504	15 7
	Coin	2,558·16	9,768	6 9	4,715·39	17,952	17 0
	Total	598,606·74	2,351,402	0 10	739,362·93	2,935,923	6 9
	Increase	—	—	—	140,756·19	584,521	6 11

It will be observed that the produce of New South Wales considerably declined, but the quantity forwarded from the neighbouring Colonies made the total receipts for the year very much larger than the previous year.

Coin issued.

The following was the issue of Coin :—

		Sovereigns.	Half-sovereigns.	Total Value.
1865	- - -	2,130,500	282,000	£ 2,271,500
1866	- - -	2,911,000	—	2,911,000
Increase	- - -	780,500	—	639,500
Decrease	- - -	—	282,000	—

Bullion issued.

In bullion :—

		Weight.	Value.
	In bullion :—	ozs.	£
1865	- - -	21,913	88,061
1866	- - -	11,113	44,732
Decrease	- - -	10,800	43,329

The increase in the value of the coin and bullion issued, compared with 1865, was 596,171*l*.

The revenue of the Mint was—

	1866.	1865.
	£	£
From New South Wales gold	11,785	14,033
From Victorian gold	3,423	2,040
From New Zealand, &c., &c., gold	9,803	7,737
Total	25,011	23,810
Increase	£1,201	

Since the opening of the Mint, there has been received for coinage 5,584,669 ozs. of gold, of the value of 21,864,668*l*., and there has been issued—

In coin - - - - £20,328,000
In bullion - - - - 1,528,574

Making a total of - - 21,856,574

The revenue derived for the same period was 242,240*l*.

Public Accounts.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

The following statement of receipts on account of the Consolidated Revenue Fund in the years 1865 and 1866 has been taken from the Colonial Treasurer's printed abstracts:—

	1865.		1866.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Customs - - - - -	636,102	7 1	828,710	4 10	192,607	17 9	—	—
Duty on refined sugar and molasses - - -	15,763	6 8	12,830	0 0	—	—	2,933	6 8
Duty on spirits distilled in the Colony - -	22,677	2 7	22,053	12 11	—	—	623	9 8
Gold revenue - - - - -	30,876	3 2	27,410	18 3	—	—	3,465	4 11
Mint receipts - - - - -	23,679	18 7	25,011	0 10	1,331	2 3	—	—
Land revenue - - - - -	532,027	18 9	547,138	11 0	15,110	12 3	—	—
Assessment on sheep under Scab Act - - -	—	—	11,968	4 8	11,968	4 8	—	—
Postage - - - - -	70,984	19 3	77,067	13 9	6,082	14 6	—	—
Commission on money orders - - - - -	1,438	14 0	1,993	18 6	555	4 6	—	—
Licences - - - - -	77,905	12 0	78,870	6 6	964	14 6	—	—
Fees of office - - - - -	26,117	10 1	26,989	7 8	871	17 7	—	—
Fees on inspection of cattle - - - - -	485	13 0	53	1 0	—	—	432	12 0
Fines and forfeitures - - - - -	6,606	0 4	5,239	0 1	—	—	1,367	0 3
Rents (exclusive of land) - - - - -	28,922	5 10	31,806	9 8	2,884	3 10	—	—
Railways - - - - -	163,349	18 3	176,246	0 7	12,896	2 4	—	—
Electric telegraph receipts - - - - -	30,443	11 4	33,914	5 11	3,470	14 7	—	—
Pilotage - - - - -	12,507	12 2	15,301	15 2	2,794	3 0	—	—
Harbour dues - - - - -	1,583	5 6	1,990	14 10	407	9 4	—	—
Fees on certificates of competency to masters of vessels. - - - - -	580	0 0	520	0 0	—	—	60	0 0
Tonnage dues - - - - -	4,172	10 6	5,405	16 0	1,233	5 6	—	—
Interest on city debentures - - - - -	10,000	0 0	10,000	0 0	—	—	—	—
Stamps - - - - -	33,700	15 1	65,870	15 5	32,170	0 4	—	—
Rates under the Chinese Immigrants Regulation and Restriction Act of 1861. - - - - -	230	0 0	10	0 0	—	—	220	0 0
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	17,241	5 2	31,677	6 0	4,436	10	—	—
Repayments to the credit of votes - 11,952 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Less—Amount of repayments on account of disbursements in the year 1865, deducted from the expenditure - - - - - 3,886 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	8,065	9 0
	8,065	9 0	—	—	—	—	—	—
RECEIPTS IN AID OF THE CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND—	1,755,461	18 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proceeds of Treasury bills issued under 27 Vict., No. 8, and applied in payment of services of 1863 and previous years. - - - - -	128,306	10 0	74,000	0 0	—	—	54,306	10 0
Amount deposited in the Treasury by the savings' bank of New South Wales, for six months, at 6 per cent. per annum. - - - - -	15,700	0 0	—	—	—	—	15,700	0 0
Proceeds of debentures issued under 29 Vict., No. 4, on account of the deficit of 1864 and previous years. - - - - -	—	—	495,344	10 0	495,344	10 0	—	—
TEMPORARY LOANS—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
From the Mutual Provident Society 100,000 <i>l.</i> - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
From the Savings' Bank of New South Wales - - - - - 100,000 <i>l.</i> - - - - -	—	—	200,000	0 0	200,000	0 0	—	—
Total - - - - -	1,899,468	8 4	2,807,423	13 7	995,128	17 9	87,173	12 6

The disbursements were—

General Head of Service.	1865.		1866.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Schedules to Imperial Act 18 & 19 Vict., cap. 54 - -	54,224	1 4	56,297	0 8	2,072	19 4	—	—
Supplements to Schedules A and B - - - - -	4,971	5 5	6,521	0 3	1,549	14 10	—	—
Executive and Legislative - - - - -	17,607	8 9	17,809	9 5	202	0 8	—	—
Chief Secretary - - - - -	449,479	5 6	448,182	7 7	—	—	1,296	17 11
Administration of justice - - - - -	56,948	9 11	95,707	18 10	38,759	8 11	—	—
Treasurer and Secretary for finance and trade - -	288,842	10 3	268,181	15 6	—	—	20,660	14 9
Secretary for lands - - - - -	213,244	7 9	192,517	15 5	—	—	20,726	12 4
Secretary for public works - - - - -	312,395	0 10	326,526	19 6	14,131	18 8	—	—
*The Postmaster-General - - - - -	—	—	85,270	6 8	85,270	6 8	—	—
Special appropriations - - - - -	337,094	8 5	391,606	13 1	54,512	4 8	—	—
Other payments out of the consolidated revenue fund -	—	—	212,199	2 1	212,199	2 1	—	—
Total - - - - -	1,734,806	18 2	2,100,820	9 0	408,697	15 10	42,684	5 0

* Included in 1865, under Head Treasurer and Secretary for Finance and Trade.

The receipts for the year 1866 were at the rate of 6*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* per head of the population, and the disbursements were 5*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* per head.

Receipts and
Disbursements
per head of
population.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.*Loans.*

The Public Debt on the 31st December 1865, amounted to 5,749,630*l.* which sum has been augmented by the addition of 1,015,800*l.*, making the debt in 1866 amount to **£6,765,430**
Of which there was paid off - - - - - **347,400**

Leaving outstanding on 31st December 1866 - - - **6,418,030**

Interest
payable.

The annual interest on the total loan outstanding for each service on the 31st December 1866, amounts to 324,210*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, or at the rate of 15*s.* 5*d.* per head of the population.

Railways.

The number of passengers conveyed by the different lines of railway shows a large falling off compared with the return of 1865.

On the Northern Line the number fell from 267,032 to 233,824—a decrease of 33,208, or 12 per cent.

On the Southern Line the numbers fell from 380,775 to 340,496—a falling off of 40,279, or 10½ per cent.

On the Western Line the numbers decreased from 80,161 to 70,532—the deficiency being 9,629, or 12 per cent.

Also on the Richmond Line from 23,618 to 23,477—the decrease being 141, or a trifle over ½ per cent.

The total number of passengers conveyed by rail on all the lines decreased from 751,587 in 1865, to 668,330 in 1866—the difference being 83,257, or 11·21 per cent.

The total amount received for coaching was 78,300*l.*, against 80,319*l.* in 1865—the decrease being 5,019*l.*, or 6 per cent.

The receipts on the Northern Line of railway amounted to 21,942*l.*, against 22,620*l.* the year before—the decrease being 678*l.*, or 3 per cent.

On the Southern Line the receipts were 40,462*l.*, against 43,405*l.* in 1865; showing a decrease of 2,943*l.*, or 6½ per cent.

The Western Line shows a decrease of 1,079*l.*, or 8 per cent., viz.:—in 1865 13,220*l.*, and in 1866 12,141*l.*

The Receipts on the Richmond Line fell from 4,073*l.* in 1865, to 3,753*l.* in 1866—being a decrease of 320*l.*, or nearly 8 per cent.

The amount received for goods and other receipts was as follows:—

Railways.		Amount for Goods.	Rents and Miscellaneous Receipts.	Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Northern Line :—				
1865	- - - - -	30,317 15 5	7,784 7 6	38,102 2 11
1866	- - - - -	34,788 10 8	5,256 7 6	40,044 18 2
	Increase	4,470 15 3	—	1,942 15 3
	Decrease	—	2,528 0 0	—
Southern Line :—				
1865	- - - - -	31,469 4 5	1,664 9 5	33,133 13 10
1866	- - - - -	34,526 3 7	1,904 17 4	36,431 0 11
	Increase	3,056 19 2	240 7 11	3,297 7 1
Western Line :—				
1865	- - - - -	9,278 2 1	101 14 11	9,379 17 0
1866	- - - - -	11,435 0 5	82 18 11	11,517 19 4
	Increase	2,156 18 4	—	2,138 2 4
	Decrease	—	18 16 0	—
Richmond Line :—				
1865	- - - - -	1,983 6 5	113 6 0	2,096 12 5
1866	- - - - -	2,149 6 2	90 19 6	2,240 5 8
	Increase	165 19 9	—	143 13 3
	Decrease	—	22 6 6	—
Total of all Lines :—				
1865	- - - - -	73,048 8 4	9,663 17 10	82,712 6 2
1866	- - - - -	82,899 0 10	7,335 3 3	90,234 4 1
	Increase	9,850 12 6	—	7,521 17 11
	Decrease	—	2,328 14 7	—

The receipts from all sources were as follows:—

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

	Amount received.						Total.	
	Coaching.		Rents, &c.		Goods.			
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.	1865	1866.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Northern Line	22,620	21,942	7,784	5,256	30,318	34,789	60,722	61,987
Southern	43,406	40,463	1,664	1,905	31,469	34,526	76,539	76,894
Western	13,220	12,141	102	83	9,278	11,435	22,600	23,659
Richmond	4,074	3,754	113	91	1,984	2,149	6,171	5,994
Totals	83,320	78,300	9,663	7,335	73,049	82,899	166,032	168,534

Total Receipts.

The total receipts:—

On the Northern Line increased over 2 per cent.

On the Southern Line barely $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

On the Western Line nearly $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

On the Richmond Line they have decreased over $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

The working expenses have diminished on all the lines, with the exception of the Northern, as shown as follows:—

Working
expenditure.

	Northern.	Southern.	Western.	Richmond.
	£	£	£	£
1865	37,834	56,021	7,787	7,284
1866	39,853	53,870	6,794	5,820
Increase	2,019, or $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	—	—	—
Decrease	—	2,151, or $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.	993, or $12\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.	1,464, or 20 per cent.

Electric Telegraph.

The number of electric telegraph stations in the Colony increased from 55 in 1865 to 63 in 1866, and the length of wire shows an extension of 722 miles—namely, 3,346 miles in 1866, against 2,624 miles in 1865.

Number
stations.

The number of telegrams increased from 138,785 in 1865, to 143,523 in 1866.

Number of
telegrams.
Receipts.

The amount received for telegrams shows an advance of 929*l.* compared with 1865; it being 29,769*l.* in 1865, against 30,698*l.** in 1866.

The construction of the various lines of telegraph has cost the country up to the present time the sum of 153,211*l.*, or an average of 45*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* per mile.

Cost of
Construction.

Money Orders.

The experience of this Colony has been similar to that of every other community where this most valuable and convenient method of transmitting money has been established; for the increase in the number of offices established and the amount of business done, proves how much the accommodation is appreciated, and what a public benefit has resulted.

The following table will give a comparative statement of the operations of this branch for the past three years.

Orders issued
and paid.

Year.	No. of Offices.	No. of Orders issued.	Amount.	No. of Orders paid.	Amount.
			£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1864	—	21,905	105,680 18 1	16,691	80,040 1 5
1865	86	28,444	129,552 6 6	23,558	112,669 15 0
1866	112	41,974	198,248 0 0	35,394	168,828 0 0

The above shows that the business transacted has been nearly doubled in three years; and it is satisfactory to learn that the expense of maintaining this department is now met by the income derived.

Post Offices, Letters, &c.

The Report furnished by the Postmaster-General will give full details of the working of this institution. The only notice it requires here is a summary of the Table No. 132,

Post Offices,
&c.

* The total amount received was 32,290*l.*, which includes 1,404*l.* balance of intercolonial accounts, and 187*l.* due from guarantees of conditional lines.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

Expenditure.

Letters, &c.,
posted.

from which it will appear that the number of post offices has increased from 435 in 1865, to 454 in 1866, and that the Revenue has increased from 70,984*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* in 1865, to 79,082*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* in 1866, being an increase of 8,097*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* in the year. The expenditure for the year 1866 is 86,505*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*, against 83,658*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* in 1865, showing an increase of 2,846*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* This increase in expense is partly accounted for by the increase of the extent of postal route in the Colony, which was 11,343 miles in 1865, and 11,883 miles in 1866, showing an expansion of 540 miles during the year. The number of miles travelled during 1865 was 2,521,212, and in 1866 was 2,556,700, showing an increase of 35,488 miles in the number travelled in 1865.

The Postmaster General deprecates the institution of comparisons between the numbers of letters and newspapers posted during the year 1866 and 1865, as there appears on the face of the returns a diminution in the number for the last year. This apparent decrease arises from the circumstance that the returns have been more accurately compiled for the year 1866, as there was reason to believe that in former years the numbers were much overstated. But the more reliable returns now submitted show a very large amount of correspondence for a community of 400,000 souls. The number of letters posted for 1866 was 6,106,074, and newspapers was 3,967,313. Although these numbers are smaller than for the year 1865, there was, as has been stated, an increase in the Revenue of 8,097*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*, which is sufficient to show that former returns must have been over-estimated.

PART VII.

Miscellaneous.—Public Works.

The expenditure on Public Works and buildings, during the year 1866, was 753,794*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*, divided as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Under the supervision of the Railway Department -	494,165	7	8
Electric telegraph -	6,650	18	11
Roads -	80,740	15	8
Harbours, &c. -	52,814	5	3
Colonial Architect -	52,147	17	0
Fitzroy Dock -	4,157	12	4
Minor roads and bridges under Public Works Department -	14,294	19	0
Ditto under Lands Department -	48,822	10	1
	£753,794	5	11

The above expenditure includes the amount applied from the Loan Fund.

The expenditure for furniture for the several Departments, &c. amounted to 3,027*l.* 13*s.*

Meteorology.

The following table will afford a view of the year's observations, taken at stations in their assumed positions:—

	Newcastle.	Sydney.	Deniliquin.	Albury.	Kiandra.	Armidale.
Height above the mean sea level (feet) -	18	155	410	572	4,640	3,278
Distance from the coast (miles) -	1	5	280	170	90	80
Temperature (in the shade, at 9 a.m.) -	64·0	63·1	60·4	61·7	—	64·0
Highest temperature (in the shade for 24 hours previous to 9 a.m.).	97·8	101·0	111·1	—	83·8	—
Lowest temperature (ditto) -	38·2	39·6	—	26·8	6·2	—
Mean diurnal range of temperature (ditto) -	15·6	14·1	—	—	29·8	—
Mean of maximum and minimum temperature (do.)	64·1	63·3	—	—	43·8	—
Mean height of barometer (at 9 a.m., corrected to 32° Fahrenheit and mean sea level).	30·088	30·079	30·102	30·074	30·102	30·051
Mean amount of humidity (0·100) at 9 a.m. -	71·7	73·3	65·5	71·4	—	—
Rainfall (inches) -	32·5	36·8	3·5	30·3	46·6	39·6
Rainy days -	92	149	81	56	55	56
Prevailing direction of the wind at 9 a.m. -	W.N.W.	W.	W.	N.E.	N.W.	W.
Mean amount of cloudy sky (0·10) at 9 a.m. -	4·6	5·1	3·0	4·3	5·6	4·1
Mean maximum temperature in the sun (for 24 hours previous to 9 a.m.).	—	110·3	—	—	—	—
Mean minimum temperature on the grass (ditto) -	—	51·3	—	—	—	—
Amount of evaporation (inches) -	—	46·206	—	—	—	—
Mean amount of ozone (0·10) for 24 hours previous to 9 a.m. -	—	5·2	—	—	—	—

Mortgages.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.
—
Real estate.

Comparing the two quinquennial periods 1857 to 1861, and 1862 to 1866, we find that the number and amount lent upon mortgage of real estate have decreased from 6,014 in number, and 3,968,833 in amount, in the former period, to 5,331 in number, to the amount of 3,341,620*l.*, in the latter period. The greatest demand for money appears to have been in the year 1860, when the mortgages reached nearly a million sterling. The least demand for money was in 1864, when mortgages were effected to the amount of 628,426*l.* only.

The discharges on mortgages of land, for the period 1862 to 1866, amounted to nearly two millions of pounds sterling. The registrations are appended :—

	Mortgages.		Discharges.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		£		£
1862 - -	1,103	682,694	495	371,983
1863 - -	1,009	714,501	486	391,279
1864 - -	964	628,426	581	418,527
1865 - -	1,048	634,017	592	386,155
1866 - -	1,207	681,982	600	344,416
Total -	5,331	3,341,620	2,754	1,912,360

Liens on Wool and Mortgages on Live Stock.

The liens on wool in 1866 amounted to 316,382*l.* This is considerably in excess of the sum registered in any year during the last decade. It is not the case with the mortgages on live stock; for the amount lent fell from 2,037,463*l.* in 1865, to 1,285,693*l.* in 1866.

To afford some idea of the amount of capital invested in pastoral pursuits, the dealings, so far as the documents in the office will admit, are appended for the last five years.

	Liens on Wool.	Mortgages on Live Stock.
	£	£
1862 - -	87,488	1,312,245
1863 - -	220,450	1,503,413
1864 - -	250,218	1,116,709
1865 - -	274,521	2,037,463
1866 - -	316,382	1,285,693
Total -	1,149,059	7,255,523
Together -	£8,404,582	

The discharges of mortgages on live stock during the above period came to 3,898,959*l.* This amount leaves an undischarged balance of 3,356,564*l.*, but to what extent this amount may have been reduced by unregistered discharges there are no means of ascertaining.

Liens on Growing Crops.

Since the operation of the Act in 1863, the number and amount of liens on growing crops show a gradual increase in each successive year as follows :—

	Number.	Amount.
		£
1863 - -	72	6,399
1864 - -	105	8,057
1865 - -	112	9,134
1866 - -	146	12,652

NEW SOUTH
WALES.*Real Property Act.*

By way of illustrating the working of this Act, the number of applications, with the amount of fees, &c., since its introduction on the 1st January 1863, up to 31st December 1866, will be found summed up as follows:—

—	No. of Applications.	No. of Properties.	Area.			Value.
			Town and Suburban.	Country.	Total.	
			acres.	acres.	acres.	£
1863 - -	340	657	730	67,183	67,913	439,278
1864 - -	362	467	250	31,589	31,839	310,165
1865 - -	434	608	651	20,271	20,922	326,168
1866 - -	379	532	652	36,584	37,236	278,063
Total -	1,515	2,264	2,283	155,627	157,910	1,353,674

The land averaged 8*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* per acre.

The fees received were—

Year.	Certificate and other Dealings.	Assurance.	Commissioners.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1863 - -	411 13 0	934 5 5	394 5 0	1,740 3 5
1864 - -	662 6 10	762 4 4	413 10 0	1,838 1 2
1865 - -	1,000 19 4	679 11 11	477 0 0	2,157 11 3
1866 - -	1,305 4 4	768 18 8	379 10 0	2,453 13 0
Total -	3,380 3 6	3,145 0 4	1,664 5 0	8,189 8 10

The number of Crown grants registered shows a small increase, whilst the area and value are greatly in excess of previous registrations, viz. :—

Year.	No. of Grants.	Town and Suburban.	Country.	Total.	Value.
		acres.	acres.	acres.	£
1863 - -	268	285	31,467	31,752	36,406
1864 - -	1,500	1,129	70,800	71,929	95,008
1865 - -	2,429	1,630	59,298	60,928	77,312
1866 - -	2,455	1,206	112,531	113,737	139,526
Total -	6,652	4,250	274,096	278,346	348,252

The total area of land brought under the Act, and of Crown grants registered, together, amounts to 436,256 acres, of the value of 1,701,926*l.*

Insolvencies.

There is a significant increase in the number of insolvencies which took place during the year, which was larger than it has been for ten years past. The number of schedules filed was 594, of which 550 were voluntary and 44 were compulsory. The increase over 1865 is 66; and, on an average, one person in every 726 surrendered his estate.

The estimated amount of liabilities was 944,016*l.*, being larger by 432,426*l.* than the liabilities of the insolvent estates in 1865. The estimated assets were 539,185*l.*, showing an admitted deficiency of 404,831*l.* The fees in insolvency amounted to 1,980*l.*

*Publicans' Licences.*NEW SOUTH
WALES.

The number of licences issued to publicans shows an increase of 68 compared with 1865, viz.:—

1865	-	-	-	-	2,041
Increase	-	-	-	-	68
1866	-	-	-	-	2,109

On an average, a licence was issued to every 201 of the population in 1865, and 204 in 1866.

The receipts from this source of revenue were—

	1865.	1866.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To retail fermented and spirituous liquors	61,414 9 2	62,822 5 8
Billiard and bagatelle licences to publicans	2,660 0 0	2,421 8 4
Total	64,074 9 2	65,243 14 0

Volunteer Corps.

The Volunteer Corps numbered, on the 31st December, 1,834 members. This is an increase on 1865 of 260.

The members were classed as follows:—

Lieutenant-Colonel	-	-	1
Captains	-	-	25
Subalterns	-	-	37
Staff	-	-	12
Serjeants	-	-	97
Buglers	-	-	34
Rank and file	-	-	1,628
Total	-	-	1,834

The expenditure for this service was in 1865, 3,492*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, and in 1866, 6,270*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*

The Volunteer Naval Brigade mustered, on 31st December, 229 officers, &c., as follows:—

Captain commanding	-	-	1
Lieutenants	-	-	5
Sub-Lieutenants	-	-	5
Medical Officer	-	-	1
Clerk, &c.	-	-	1
Warrant and Petty Officers	-	-	12
Cadets	-	-	4
A. B.'s	-	-	200
Total	-	-	229

The expenditure for this Service was 3,943*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, against 2,050*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* the year before.

Lands.

The area of lands sold otherwise than conditionally was 109,177 acres, amounting to 127,609*l.*, against 101,350 acres, which brought 135,521*l.* the year previous.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

The quantity of land disposed of during the last two years was—

	1865.	1866.
In the settled districts—	acres.	acres.
Town lots - - - -	180	33
Suburban lots - - -	645	415
Country lots - - - -	21,861	27,093
Total - - - -	22,686	27,541
In the pastoral districts—		
Town lots - - - -	314	270
Suburban lots - - -	866	630
Country lots - - - -	77,484	80,735
Total - - - -	78,664	81,635
Total of settled and pastoral districts	101,350	109,176

Average price
per acre.

In the town and suburban lands a falling off will be observed in the area sold, but the country lands show an increase of 7,826 acres.

The lands sold otherwise than conditionally averaged in

	£	s.	d.	
1864 - - - -	1	3	8	per acre.
1865 - - - -	1	2	9	„
1866 - - - -	1	3	4	„

Price per acre
paid for lands.

The following table will show the average price per acre paid during the last two years for lands sold under the Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861 :—

	1865.	1866.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sold at auction—Town - - - -	41 0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	40 1 7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Suburban - - - -	4 9 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Country - - - -	1 2 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$
Unconditionally sold by selection - - -	1 0 5	1 0 6
Improved lots sold to owners of improvements -	1 3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 10
Proceeds of sales of unnecessary roads -	3 6 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 14 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sold under return of water reservation -	17 18 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 9 4
Specially sold at appraised price - - -	1 1 6	2 12 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Reclaimed land sold at ditto - - - -	1 5 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 18 8
Sold by pre-emption - - - -	1 0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 0 3
Sold conditionally - - - -	1 0 0	1 0 0

Revenue from
lands and
gold fields.

The revenue derived from lands and gold fields, for the year ending 31 December 1866, was 541,350*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, recapitulated as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Under Lands Alienation Act - - - -	232,621	17	7
Under Lands Occupation Act - - - -	272,844	0	0
Under Gold Fields Act - - - -	27,602	12	11
Miscellaneous - - - -	8,282	3	4
Total - - - -	£541,350	13	10

Balance pay-
able for lands
sold.

The balance payable in 1867, for lands sold at auction, amounts to 31,114*l.* 19*s.* 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*; and in 1869 there will be due for conditional purchases the sum of 268,989*l.*; together, 300,103*l.* 19*s.* 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*

Statistical
View.

The usual Statistical View of the Colony, from the earliest period down to the present time, precedes the volume.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

THEO^{RE}. JAS. JAKUES,

Registrar General.

STATISTICAL VIEW of the PROGRESS of NEW SOUTH WALES for the last 10 YEARS.

NEW SOUTH
WALES.

Year.	Population.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Schools.		Commitments for Trial.	Convictions.	Mills.	Manufactories, Works, &c.	Number of Acres under Crop.	Live Stock.			
					Schools.	Number of Scholars.						Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1857	305,487	12,501	2,902	4,846	550	29,236	—	395	157	284	184,513 ¹	180,053	2,148,664	8,139,162	109,166
1858	342,062	13,802	2,992	5,883	653	33,236	780	415	169	295	223,295 ¹	200,713	2,110,604	7,581,762	92,843
1859	^a 336,572	14,415	3,295	5,642	739	32,840	753	406	177	549	247,542 ¹	214,684	2,190,976	5,162,671	119,701
1860	348,546	14,233	2,945	6,562	798	34,767	685	405	193	745	260,798	251,497	2,408,586	6,119,163	180,662
1861	^b 358,278	14,681	3,222	5,343	849	37,874	820	437	184	788	297,575	233,220	2,271,923	5,615,054	146,091
1862	367,495	15,434	3,326	6,524	925	42,211	879	514	181	859	302,138 ¹	273,389	2,620,383	6,145,651	125,541
1863	378,934	15,679	3,314	6,653	976	46,810	887	497	180	1,768	307,085	262,554	2,032,522	7,790,969	135,899
1864	392,589	16,881	3,480	6,445	1,022	48,427	975	590	174	2,084	318,854	284,567	1,924,119	8,271,520	164,154
1865	411,888	17,283	3,578	6,596	1,069	53,453	1,123	686	175	2,132	378,254 ¹	282,587	1,961,905	8,132,511	146,901
1866	431,412	16,950	3,462	7,361	1,155	59,594	1,255	770	159	2,389	451,225 ¹	278,437	1,771,809	11,562,155	137,915

Year.	Coal raised.		Land Sales.		Shipping.				Exports, the Produce of the Colony. ^c			
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Amount realised.	Inwards.		Outwards.		Wool.		Tallow.	
					Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	(Quantity.)	(Value.)	(Quantity.)	(Value.)
1857	tons.	£	acres.	£	1,100	351,413	1,204	377,147	lbs.	£	cwt.	£
1858	210,434	148,158	145,102	210,333	1,141	348,984	1,254	366,825	17,044,201	1,275,067	37,574	82,134
1859	216,397	162,162	169,214	240,633	1,250	363,121	1,299	387,015	13,553,835	1,126,486	29,085	53,186
1860	308,213	204,371	135,167	252,627	1,438	427,835	1,438	431,484	16,988,016	1,458,005	17,376	37,275
1861	368,862	226,493	109,216	155,316	1,493	454,837	1,568	467,356	12,809,362	1,123,699	13,647	28,794
1862	342,067	218,820	189,936	222,594	1,327	366,236	1,391	379,460	12,745,891	1,396,426	60,638	60,816
1863	476,522	305,234	^d 67,292	216,988	1,493	454,837	1,568	467,356	13,482,139	1,283,818	71,281	104,030
1864	433,889	236,230	^d 92,016	128,211	1,494	479,827	1,603	511,373	14,791,849	1,262,274	17,709	31,221
1865	549,012	270,171	^d 58,216	112,719	1,849	607,168	1,842	647,057	25,827,917*	2,294,615*	61,056	100,654
1866	585,525	274,303	^d 101,350	213,240	1,912	635,888	2,120	690,294	29,858,791*	2,283,560*	75,810	122,270
1866	774,238	324,049	^d 109,177	261,590	2,099	730,354	2,259	784,381	36,980,685*	2,830,348*	27,726	51,826

Year.	Exports, the Produce of the Colony. ^a					Value of Total Imports. ^c	Value of Total Exports. ^c	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Oil, &c. (Value.)	Gold.†		Coal.				General.	Loans.	Ordinary.	Loans.
		(Quantity.)	(Value.)	(Quantity.)	(Value.)						
	£	ozs.	£	tons.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1857	32,306	253,564	983,850	96,457	45,960	6,729,408	4,011,952	1,185,562	345,575	1,104,995	438,333
1858	1,450	254,907	994,960	113,649	89,200	6,059,366	4,186,277	1,379,675	76,776	1,209,796	360,770
1859	532	435,995	1,698,078	173,935	132,984	6,597,053	4,768,049	1,522,668	816,822	1,425,028	433,138
1860	136	483,012	1,876,049	233,877	183,761	7,519,285	5,072,020	1,319,779	560,729	1,321,724	726,231
1861	—	488,293	1,890,908	207,780	160,965	6,391,555	5,594,839	1,448,610	394,457	1,540,005	433,224
1862	—	699,566	2,715,037	308,782	245,422	9,334,645	7,102,562	1,628,885	644,285	1,608,810	526,708
1863	—	605,722	2,361,949	298,038	220,181	8,319,576	6,936,839	1,550,047	649,116	2,064,299	537,795
1864	—	758,109	2,952,471	372,466	212,488	10,135,708*	9,037,832*	1,693,792	290,983	1,862,245	464,656
1865	—	682,521	2,647,668	382,968	214,158	10,635,507*	9,563,818*	1,938,656†	298,578	1,760,516†	554,278
1866	—	751,700	2,924,891	540,905	300,588	9,403,192*	9,913,839*	2,833,459	419,720	2,125,414	887,157

^a The reduction in the year 1859 was caused by the separation of Queensland from New South Wales.^b The Census was taken in 1821, 2, 3, 5, 8, 33, 6; population as above.

2nd March 1841, population 180,856

2nd March 1846, " 189,609

1st March 1851, " 187,243

1st March 1856, " 266,189

1st March 1861, " 350,860

^c Exclusive of the overland traffic.^d Exclusive of lands conditionally sold under the "Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861."

Price of land in 1825, 7s. 6d. to 10s. per acre.

The minimum price of land was 5s. per acre, from 1832 to 1840; 12s. per acre, 1840-2. (20s. in Port Phillip in 1841). 20s. per acre from 1843 to present time.

Number of acres alienated to the end of 1866(exclusive of lands conditionally selected in the Old Settled Districts), about 7,983,924 acres.

Number of acres unalienated, about 106,644,472 acres.

In 1822, 3, 4, 5, the accounts were kept in Spanish dollars and British money; generally in Spanish dollars.

Transportation ceased in 1840.

The Return of the Revenue and Expenditure previous to 1850 cannot be accurately ascertained. In addition to the above Expenditure the Imperial Government paid large sums for the maintenance of Convicts and Military.

Gold discovered in May 1851.

The Loans Expenditure previous to 1863 cannot be shown.

^e Includes 270,543¹. proceeds of Treasury Bills, issued under the Act of Council, 27th Vict., No. 8, to cover deficit of 1863 and previous years.^f The Revenue and Expenditure columns include "Church and School Lands Revenue," "Police Reward Fund," "Police Superannuation Fund," and "Superannuation Fund," 27th Vict. No. 11.^{*} Inclusive of the overland traffic.[†] Includes the gold received at the Mint from other Colonies, and converted into bars and coin.

QUEENS-
LAND.

No. 16.

QUEENSLAND.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE F. BOWEN, G.C.M.G., to his
Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 51.)

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland,
September 12, 1867.

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Statistical Register, or
"Blue Book," of the Colony of Queensland for the year 1866.

2. The Annual Report of the Registrar-General prefixed to the statistical tables is so full and yet so concise that it appears necessary for me, on the present as on former occasions, to do little more than to solicit attention to it, and especially to the tabulated statements, which will be found to exhibit a synopsis of the condition and progress of this Colony during the first seven years (1860 to 1866) of its political existence.

3. As I have explained in previous Despatches, the past year (1866) was a season of severe depression in Queensland and in the other Australian Colonies. This depression—the effects of which have not yet entirely passed away—was the result partly of prolonged droughts so destructive to the welfare of the pastoral communities, partly of that over-trading and over-speculation so common in all young countries, and partly of the great financial crisis in England. Nevertheless it will be seen that the official statistics are, on the whole, of a satisfactory character. I will glance at a few of the more prominent facts and figures.

4. In the first place it appears that the European population of Queensland at the close of 1865 was 87,775, while at the close of 1866 it had risen, chiefly through immigration from the United Kingdom, to 96,172, an increase over the previous year at the rate of 9·57 per cent. Again, there was an increase in 1866 over 1865 of 8·38 per cent. as regards the number of horned cattle, of 10·37 per cent. as regards the number of sheep, and of 17·09 per cent. in the quantity of wool exported. These are the chief elements of wealth in a pastoral community.

5. The progress shown by the agricultural statistics is even more gratifying. It will be seen that during 1866 the land under cultivation increased by 69·5 per cent. Above all, cotton in 1866 shows an acreage nearly six-fold greater than in 1865; while the returns of land under sugar cultivation exhibit in the aggregate an increase of about 50 per cent. on the quantity returned in the preceding year. It is true that (as the Registrar-General observes) the figures last referred to are still small; but they deserve notice as showing the commencement and growth of industries which will, in all human probability, become hereafter of vast importance. It will be remembered that the great exportation of sugar from Mauritius dates from little more than the last 30 years; and that during the first 60 years of the present century the exportation of cotton from America grew up from smaller beginnings than those already made in Queensland to an amount valued at forty millions sterling annually.

6. Again, an examination of the trade returns for the last two years shows that the exportation of goods which are the produce or the manufacture of Queensland has increased in value during 1866 at the rate of 15·73 per cent. on the similar exports of 1865. Moreover, the shipping returns of 1866, when compared with those of the preceding year, show an increase of 14·49 per cent. on the number of vessels entered inwards, and of 13·93 per cent. on the number of vessels entered outwards.

7. Not less gratifying than the proofs of material progress are those pages of the Statistical Register which show the progress of education. It will be seen that in 1866 the number of Government schools increased from 31 to 39; while the aggregate attendance of scholars at those schools increased at the centesimal rate of 24·38. During the same year the number of private schools was also augmented at the rate of 28·57 per cent. On the whole, the education returns of 1866, when compared with those of 1865, prove that the ratio of increase during the latter year in both public and private schools, as well as in the aggregate number of scholars attending them, is considerably larger

than the ratio of increase in the population. This fact goes far to show that the population of Queensland, which here, as in all other new countries, was at first somewhat erratic, is now rapidly assuming a more settled character.

8. It will be remembered that Queensland was erected into a separate Colony on my arrival as the first Governor on December 10, 1859. The synopsis of the statistics of the Register transmitted herewith shows the centesimal increase in the principal elements of progress during the six years since 1860 (the first year of the political existence of this community) to have been at the following rates,—

Population	-	-	-	282·45 per cent.
Revenue	-	-	-	245·86 „
Imports	-	-	-	232·59 „
Exports	-	-	-	161·04 „
Land under cultivation	-	-	-	628·69 „
Horses	-	-	-	122·56 „
Horned cattle	-	-	-	112·39 „
Sheep	-	-	-	129·85 „
Shipping	{ Tonnage inwards		-	332·18 „
	{ „ outwards		-	396·14 „
Schools-	-	-	-	108·06 „
Number of scholars	-	-	-	112·62 „

9. To sum up: since the establishment of Queensland in December 1859, the European population has increased from less than 25,000 to nearly 100,000, that is, it has been augmented nearly four-fold; while the revenue and the trade of the Colony (including exports and imports) have been almost trebled. The other chief elements of prosperity have advanced in a nearly equal proportion. During the same seven years cotton and sugar have been added to the list of staple products; a line of new ports has been opened along the eastern seaboard from Keppel Bay to Cape York, a distance of 1,000 miles; and settlements have been formed around the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria, on the northern coast of the Australian Continent, and a distance of more than 1,500 miles from the seat of Government at Brisbane. Moreover, during the same period pastoral occupation has spread over the greater portion of the interior of Queensland; that is, over an additional area at least four times larger than the area of the United Kingdom. For, in 1859, the pioneer settlers had scarcely advanced beyond the Darling Downs to the west or beyond Rockhampton to the north. Now, in 1867, there are stations more than 700 miles to the west of Brisbane, and more than 800 miles to the north and north-west of Rockhampton.

10. It will, perhaps, be recollected that in the speech delivered at a recent prorogation of the Queensland Parliament I summed up the progress of this Colony during its early years in terms similar to those of the last paragraph, and that I concluded with the following words:—“These facts, derived from the official statistics, cannot fail to be “interesting and instructive to our fellow countrymen at home, while they must be to “you, as they are to me, a subject of honest pride and of devout thankfulness.”

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. BOWEN.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE STATISTICAL REGISTER OF QUEENSLAND FOR THE YEAR 1866.

To the Honourable Arthur Macalister, Esq., Colonial Secretary, &c. &c.

SIR,
Registrar-General's Office, Brisbane, June 10, 1867.
I HAVE the honour to forward to you, for presentation to Parliament, “the Statistical “Register of the Colony of Queensland for the year ending the 31st December 1866,” together with the following comparative tables and explanatory remarks.

*Parliamentary Business.*QUEENS-
LAND.

The fourth session of the second Parliament of Queensland was opened by his Excellency the Governor in person on the 10th of April 1866, and was prorogued by his Excellency in person on the 23rd of October following. During this session the Legislative Assembly sat on 63 days; the daily average length of each sitting being five hours and 43 minutes.

At page 28 of the Register is published an alphabetical register of public bills originated in each branch of the Legislature, by which it appears that the number of bills originated in the Legislative Council was six, of which four received his Excellency's assent, one was discharged from the paper, and one was not returned from the Legislative Assembly. And that in the Legislative Assembly the number of bills originated was 37, of which 22 received his Excellency's assent, and 15 were either discharged from the paper, were withdrawn, lapsed, or were not returned from the Legislative Council. Four of the above bills, having for their objects the imposition of additional taxation, the issue of additional Treasury bills, and the issue of Treasury notes, were initiated in the Legislative Assembly by messages from his Excellency the Governor.

Population.

ESTIMATED POPULATION of QUEENSLAND on the 31st December 1866.

	Males.	Females.	Persons.
	57,288	38,884	96,172

Comparing the above estimate with the estimated population of the Colony on the 31st December 1865, it appears that the addition made to the population during the year 1866 consists of 3,991 males, 4,406 females; altogether of 8,397 persons.

ESTIMATED MEAN POPULATION of the Year 1866.

	Males.	Females.	Persons.
	55,292	36,681	91,973

The centesimal increase in the population during the year 1866 is at the rate of 9·57 per cent.; males, 7·49 per cent.; females, 12·78 per cent. The female part of the population has, therefore, increased considerably faster than the male. This is probably explained by the number of males who left the Colony in the two last quarters of the year. On the 31st December 1866 there were in the Colony 67·87 females to each 100 males, whereas on the 31st December 1865 there were only 64·69 females to each 100 males.

A.

QUEENS-
LAND.

RETURN showing the INCREASE of the POPULATION of QUEENSLAND during each of the Four Quarters of the Year 1866.

1866.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
<i>First Quarter.</i>			
Population on the 1st January 1866 - - - -	53,297	34,478	87,775
Increase by excess of births over deaths during the Quarter -	55	176	231
Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea, during the Quarter.	2,613	1,788	4,401
Population on the 31st March - - -	55,965	36,442	92,407
Increase during the Quarter - - -	2,668	1,964	4,632
<i>Second Quarter.</i>			
Population on the 1st April - - - -	55,965	36,442	92,407
Increase by excess of births over deaths during the Quarter -	140	280	420
Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea, during the Quarter.	1,155	696	1,851
Population on the 30th June - - -	57,260	37,418	94,678
Increase during the Quarter - - -	1,295	976	2,271
<i>Third Quarter.</i>			
Population on the 1st July - - - -	57,260	37,418	94,678
Increase by excess of births over deaths during the Quarter -	251	325	576
Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea, during the Quarter.	705	1,011	1,716
Population on the 30th September - -	58,216	38,754	96,970
Increase during the Quarter - - -	956	1,336	2,292
<i>Fourth Quarter.</i>			
Population on the 1st October - - - -	58,216	38,754	96,970
Increase by excess of births over deaths during the Quarter -	246	292	538
TOTAL - - - -	58,462	39,046	97,508
Decrease by excess of emigration over immigration by sea, during the Quarter.	1,174	162	1,336
Population on the 31st December 1866 -	57,288	38,884	96,172
Decrease of male population by excess of emigration over immigration by sea, during the Quarter.	928	—	928
Increase of female population by excess of births over emigration by sea.	—	130	130
Decrease during the Quarter - - -	—	—	798
Increase during the Year - - -	3,991	4,406	8,397

A correct estimate of the distribution of the erratic population of Queensland can only be arrived at by means of a census. The following table, based on the supposition that the number of names registered from any one district in the books for the registration of births, marriages, and deaths bears always a certain rateable proportion to the population of that particular district, furnishes an idea of the distribution of our population which, I believe, will hereafter prove not to be very wide of the truth. It will be observed that the total population arrived at by this method of calculation is slightly larger than the estimate formed in the usual manner. I am not, however, prepared to admit this to be an error, for the usual manner of estimating the population takes no account of the arrivals and departures overland; and, although the Colony may during the past year have lost some few by that route, there can, I think, be no doubt that it has gained in the aggregate during the three years which have expired since the taking of the last census, on the 1st January 1864. Be this as it may, the two estimates differ so slightly in their total result as to justify the belief that neither is much in error, especially when it is borne in mind that the difference between them, of 1,218 persons in the total population on the 31st December 1866, is the accumulated difference of three years, each calculation going back to, and being based upon, the information supplied by the last census.

QUEENS-
LAND.

B.

Registration Districts.	Estimated Population on the 31st December 1865, deduced from centesimal proportion of names registered.	Centesimal Increase* or Diminution† in the number of names registered in each district, corrected by centesimal increase in total proportion.	Estimated Population on the 31st December 1866, deduced from centesimal proportion of names registered in each district.
Brisbane - - - -	29,637	* 2·325	30,326·060
Ipswich - - - -	16,254	† 0·625	16,152·413
Rockhampton - - -	5,618	* 8·783	6,111·428
Drayton - - - -	7,263	*32·233	9,604·082
Warwick - - - -	4,602	† 4·131	4,411·892
Maryborough - - -	3,278	*11·258	3,647·037
All other districts - - -	20,830	*30·280	27,137·324
Total - - - -	87,482	—	97,390·236

The following tables, lettered C. to G. inclusive, refer especially to the vital statistics of the Colony for the past and previous year, and are prepared to facilitate comparisons.

C.

TABLE showing the Number of BIRTHS in the Years 1865 and 1866, also the PROPORTION of FEMALES to MALES born in each Year.

District.	1865.			1866.			Total Increase* or Decrease† in the latter Year.	Increase* or Decrease† per cent. in the latter Year.	Females born to every 100 Males born in 1865.	Females born to every 100 Males born in 1866.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				
Banana - - - -	9	8	17	10	13	23	* 6	* 35·29	88·89	130·00
Bowen (Kennedy) - -	39	29	68	39	52	91	* 23	* 33·83	74·36	13·33
Brisbane - - - -	705	692	1,397	796	741	1,537	*140	* 10·02	98·58	93·09
Broad Sound - - -	3	5	8	7	6	13	* 5	* 62·50	166·66	85·71
Cardwell - - - -	3	1	4	—	5	5	* 1	* 25·00	33·33	—
Carpentaria - - -	—	—	—	1	1	2	* 2	—	—	100·00
Cleveland Bay (Townsville). - -	—	—	—	18	22	40	* 40	—	—	122·22
Condamine - - - -	11	10	21	11	9	20	† 1	† 9·52	90·99	81·81
Dalby - - - -	70	60	130	64	68	132	* 2	* 10·54	85·71	106·25
Drayton and Toowoomba -	156	145	301	217	208	425	*124	* 41·19	92·30	95·85
Gayndah - - - -	39	48	87	61	54	115	* 28	* 32·18	123·08	88·52
Goondiwindi - - -	14	13	27	5	9	14	† 13	† 48·14	92·86	180·00
Ipswich - - - -	287	277	564	299	284	583	* 19	* 30·37	98·52	94·98
Isaacs, East - - -	—	—	—	7	4	11	* 11	—	—	57·14
Leyburn - - - -	7	7	14	18	14	32	* 18	*128·57	100·00	77·78
Mackay - - - -	6	9	15	12	13	25	* 10	* 66·66	150·00	108·33
Nanango - - - -	9	6	15	7	6	13	† 2	† 13·33	66·67	85·71
North Cook (Somerset) -	1	1	2	—	—	—	† 2	—	100·00	—
Peak Downs (Clermont) -	10	12	22	20	11	31	* 9	* 40·90	120·00	55·00
Port Curtis - - -	27	14	41	30	20	50	* 9	* 21·95	51·85	66·67
Princhester - - -	—	1	1	5	7	12	* 11	*1,100·00	—	140·00
Rockhampton - - -	166	168	334	215	193	408	* 74	* 22·13	101·20	89·76
Roma (Mt. Abundance) -	17	15	32	19	19	38	* 6	* 18·75	88·24	100·00
St. George - - - -	4	10	14	9	8	17	* 3	* 21·43	250·00	88·88
Springure - - - -	6	2	8	11	18	29	* 21	*262·50	33·33	163·64
Surat - - - -	5	3	8	9	8	17	* 9	*112·50	60·00	88·88
Tambo (Mitchell) - -	—	—	—	5	2	7	* 7	—	—	40·00
Taroom - - - -	10	14	24	15	15	30	* 6	* 25·00	140·00	100·00
Warrego - - - -	2	1	3	2	5	7	* 4	*133·33	50·00	250·00
Warwick - - - -	85	88	173	114	74	188	* 15	* 8·67	13·51	64·91
Wide Bay - - - -	90	84	174	104	95	199	* 25	* 14·36	93·38	91·35
Woogaroo - - - -	13	15	28	7	5	12	† 16	† 57·14	115·38	71·43
Total - - - -	1,794	1,738	3,532	2,137	1,989	4,126	*594	* 16·82	96·88	93·07

D.

QUEENS-
LAND.

TABLE showing the Number of DEATHS in the Years 1865 and 1866, also the Proportion of DEATHS of FEMALES to every 100 DEATHS of MALES in 1866.

District.	1865.			1866.			Total Increase* or Decrease† in the latter Year.	Increase* or Decrease† per cent. in the latter Year.	Number of Deaths of Females to every 100 Deaths of Males in 1865.	Number of Deaths of Females to every 100 Deaths of Males in 1866.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				
Banana - - -	10	2	12	5	3	8	† 4	† 33·33	20·00	60·00
Bowen (Kennedy) - - -	22	12	34	31	17	48	* 14	* 41·18	54·54	54·83
Brisbane - - -	400	348	748	538	401	939	* 191	* 25·53	87·00	74·54
Broad Sound - - -	3	3	6	7	—	7	* 1	* 16·66	100·00	—
Cardwell - - -	8	—	8	2	—	2	† 6	* 75·00	—	—
Carpentaria - - -	—	—	—	26	9	35	* 35	—	—	34·60
Cleveland Bay (Townsville). - - -	—	—	—	16	9	25	* 25	—	—	56·25
Condamine - - -	1	—	1	7	5	12	* 11	* 1,100·00	—	71·43
Dalby - - -	17	15	32	45	20	65	* 39	* 103·12	88·24	4·44
Drayton and Toowoomba - - -	70	45	115	142	82	224	* 109	* 94·78	64·29	57·75
Gayndah - - -	28	12	40	27	9	36	† 4	† 10·00	42·86	33·33
Goondiwindi - - -	5	1	6	9	2	11	* 5	* 83·33	20·00	22·22
Ipswich - - -	131	129	260	216	183	399	* 139	* 53·46	98·47	84·72
Isaacs (East) - - -	—	—	—	11	2	13	* 8	* 160·00	—	18·18
Leyburn - - -	2	3	5	7	3	10	* 5	* 100·00	150·00	42·86
Mackay - - -	3	—	3	5	—	5	* 2	* 66·66	—	—
Nanango - - -	4	—	4	2	1	3	† 1	† 25·00	—	50·00
North Cook (Somerset) - - -	—	1	1	2	1	3	* 2	* 200·00	—	50·00
Peak Downs (Clermont) - - -	28	11	39	21	2	23	† 16	† 41·03	39·28	9·52
Port Curtis - - -	9	5	14	7	2	9	† 5	† 64·29	55·55	28·57
Princhester - - -	4	2	6	5	2	7	* 1	* 110·00	50·00	40·00
Rockhampton - - -	112	92	204	128	65	193	† 11	† 5·39	—	50·71
Roma (Mt. Abundance) - - -	15	6	21	18	7	25	* 4	* 19·05	40·00	38·88
St. George - - -	10	—	10	8	6	14	* 4	* 40·00	82·14	75·00
Springsure - - -	6	6	12	19	4	23	* 11	* 91·67	100·00	21·05
Surat - - -	3	2	5	7	4	11	* 6	* 120·00	66·00	57·14
Tambo (Mitchell) - - -	—	—	—	15	2	17	* 17	—	—	13·33
Taroom - - -	8	2	10	12	7	19	* 9	* 90·00	40·00	58·33
Warrego - - -	9	1	10	19	1	20	* 10	* 100·00	11·11	5·26
Warwick - - -	29	16	45	30	26	56	* 11	* 24·44	55·17	86·66
Wide Bay - - -	42	28	70	48	38	86	* 16	* 22·86	66·66	79·17
Woogaroo - - -	8	4	12	10	3	13	* 1	* 8·33	50·00	30·00
Total - - -	987	746	1,733	1,445	916	2,361	628	26·59	75·58	62·69

E.

TABLE comparing the DEATHS of the Year 1866 with the BIRTHS of the same Year.

District.	Deaths in 1866.	Births in 1866.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Deaths have centesimally increased faster* or slower † than Births.
Banana - - -	8	23	15	—	† 187·50
Bowen (Kennedy) - - -	48	91	43	—	† 89·58
Brisbane - - -	939	1,537	598	—	† 163·68
Broad Sound - - -	7	13	6	—	† 85·71
Cardwell ¹ - - -	2	5	3	—	† 150·00
Carpentaria - - -	35	2	—	33	* 94·29
Cleveland Bay (Townsville) - - -	25	40	15	—	† 60·00
Condamine - - -	12	20	8	—	† 66·66
Dalby - - -	65	132	67	—	† 103·08
Drayton and Toowoomba - - -	224	425	201	—	† 89·73
Gayndah - - -	36	115	79	—	† 219·44
Goondiwindi - - -	11	14	3	—	† 27·27
Ipswich - - -	399	583	184	—	† 46·12
Isaacs (East) - - -	13	11	—	2	* 15·38
Leyburn - - -	10	32	22	—	† 220·00
Mackay - - -	5	25	20	—	† 400·00
Nanango - - -	3	13	10	—	† 333·00
North Cook (Somerset) - - -	3	—	—	3	—
Peak Downs (Clermont) - - -	23	31	8	—	† 34·7
Port Curtis - - -	9	50	41	—	† 455·58

¹ No returns received for last quarter of 1866.

QUEENS-
LAND.

E.—continued.

District.	Deaths in 1866.	Births in 1866.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Deaths have centesimally increased faster* or slower † than Births.
Princhester - - -	7	12	5	—	† 71·42
Rockhampton - - -	193	408	215	—	† 111·39
Roma (Mount Abundance) - - -	25	38	13	—	† 52·00
St. George - - -	14	17	3	—	† 21·43
Springsure - - -	23	29	6	—	† 26·08
Surat - - -	11	17	6	—	† 54·54
Tambo (Mitchell) - - -	17	7	—	10	† 58·82
Taroom - - -	19	30	11	—	† 57·89
Warrego - - -	20	7	—	13	* 65·00
Warwick - - -	56	188	132	—	† 235·71
Wide Bay - - -	86	199	113	—	† 131·39
Woogaroo - - -	13	12	—	1	* 7·69
Total - - -	2,361	4,126	1,827	62	† 77·38

F.

TABLE showing the NUMBER OF DEATHS OF CHILDREN under Five Years of Age registered in the
Years 1865, 1866.

District.	1865.			1866.			Increase* or Decrease† in the Deaths of Children below Two Years of Age.	Increase* or Decrease† in the Deaths of Children Two Years of Age and under Five Years.	Total Increase* or Decrease† in the Deaths of Children below Five Years of Age.
	Below Two Years.	Two and under Five Years.	Total below Five Years.	Below Two Years.	Two and under Five Years.	Total below Five Years.			
Banana - - -	2	—	2	3	—	3	* 1	—	* 1
Bowen (Kennedy) - - -	14	2	16	17	2	19	* 3	—	* 3
Brisbane - - -	412	39	451	444	79	523	* 32	* 40	* 72
Broad Sound - - -	5	—	5	—	—	—	† 5	—	† 5
Cardwell ¹ - - -	2	—	2	—	—	—	† 2	—	† 2
Carpentaria - - -	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	* 3	* 3
Cleveland Bay (Townsville) - - -	—	—	—	14	1	15	* 14	* 1	* 15
Condamine - - -	—	—	—	6	—	6	* 6	—	* 6
Dalby - - -	5	1	6	23	2	25	* 18	* 1	* 19
Drayton and Toowoomba ¹ - - -	46	19	65	97	17	114	* 51	† 2	* 49
Gayndah - - -	17	—	17	7	3	10	† 10	* 3	* 7
Goondiwindi - - -	—	—	—	4	—	4	* 4	—	* 4
Ipswich - - -	111	29	140	172	28	200	* 61	† 1	* 60
Isaacs (East) - - -	—	—	—	1	1	2	* 1	* 1	* 2
Leyburn - - -	3	—	3	4	1	5	* 1	* 1	* 2
Mackay - - -	—	—	—	4	—	4	* 4	—	* 4
Nanango - - -	—	—	—	2	1	3	* 2	* 1	* 3
North Cook (Somerset) - - -	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Peak Downs (Clermont) - - -	5	3	8	6	—	6	* 1	† 3	† 2
Port Curtis - - -	2	—	2	5	—	5	* 3	—	* 3
Princhester - - -	1	—	1	1	1	2	—	* 1	* 1
Rockhampton - - -	100	15	115	90	15	105	† 10	—	† 10
Roma (Mount Abundance) - - -	7	—	7	8	—	8	* 1	—	* 1
St. George - - -	1	—	1	4	1	5	* 3	* 1	* 4
Springsure - - -	4	—	4	4	1	5	—	* 1	* 1
Surat - - -	—	—	—	5	1	6	* 5	* 1	* 6
Tambo (Mitchell) - - -	—	—	—	1	1	2	* 1	* 1	* 2
Taroom - - -	2	—	2	2	1	3	—	* 1	* 1
Warrego - - -	2	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	—
Warwick - - -	11	5	16	22	8	30	* 11	* 3	* 14
Wide Bay - - -	27	4	31	50	5	55	* 23	* 1	* 24
Woogaroo - - -	6	—	6	1	—	1	† 5	—	† 5
Total - - -	786	117	903	1,000	172	1,172	* 214	* 55	* 269

¹ No return for last quarter of 1866.

G.

TABLE showing the NUMBER of MARRIAGES celebrated in each of the Years 1865 and 1866.

QUEENS-
LAND.

District.	Year.	Church of England.	Church of Rome.	Presbyterian and United Presbyterian.	Wesleyan Methodist.	Primitive Methodist.	United Methodist Free Church.	Congregational.	Baptist.	Particular Baptist.	Lutheran.	Hebrew Church.	German Independent.	Registration Act.	Total in 1865.	Total in 1866.
Banana -	- { 1865 1866	- { 2	- { 2	- { 1	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	2 3	2 -	- 8
Bowen (Kennedy)	- { 1865 1866	- { 23	- { 15 16	- { 14 3	- { -	- { -	- { -	3 -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	8 4	40 -	- 46
Brisbane -	- { 1865 1866	- { 68	- { 100 94	- { 103 86	- { 24 21	- { 17 12	- { 3 2	- { 16 16	- { 19 5	- { - 8	- { 44 53	- { -	- { -	30 29	424 -	- 394
Broad Sound -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	1 3	1 -	- 3
Cardwell ¹ -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	1 -	1 -	- -
Carpentaria (Burke) -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -
Cleveland Bay -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	3 7	3 -	- 7
Condamine -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	4 2	4 -	- 2
Dalby -	- { 1865 1866	- { 3	- { 3 12	- { 1 3	- { -	- { -	- { -	14 7	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	21 3	- 31
Drayton and Toowoomba	- { 1865 1866	- { 14 19	- { 27 33	- { 14 4	- { 9 9	- { -	- { -	14 18	- { -	- { -	10 -	- { -	- { 8	3 -	91 -	- 91
Gayndah -	- { 1865 1866	- { 1 2	- { - 5	- { 1 -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	19 8	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { 1	8 11	29 -	- 27
Goondiwindi -	- { 1865 1866	- { 2 1	- { 1 -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { 6	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	2 2	5 -	- 3
Ipswich -	- { 1865 1866	- { 29 20	- { 91 61	- { 29 12	- { 18 21	- { - 2	- { -	3 5	8 -	- { -	2 8	- { -	- { -	16 15	194 -	- 152
Isaacs (East) -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { 4	- { -	- 4
Leyburn -	- { 1865 1866	- { 2 2	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	2 -	- 2
Maackay -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { 4	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	11 8	11 -	- 12
Nanango -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { 1	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- 1
North Cook (Somerset)	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -
Peak Downs (Clermont)	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { 1	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	7 6	7 -	- 7
Port Curtis -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { 6	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	6 12	6 -	- 18
Princhester -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	1 1	1 -	- 1
Rockhampton -	- { 1865 1866	- { 15 19	- { 48 53	- { 30 38	- { - 4	- { 22 22	- { -	3 12	2 -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	1 2	121 -	- 150
Roma -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { 2 4	- { -	- { 1	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	8 5	10 -	- 10
St. George -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	2 3	2 -	- 3
Springsure -	- { 1865 1866	- { 1	- { -	- { 1	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	3 2	4 -	- 3
Surat -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { 1	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	2 -	2 -	- 1
Tambo (Mitchell)	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	2 -	- { -	- 2
Taroom -	- { 1865 1866	- { 1 2	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	1 -	2 -	- 2
Warrego -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	1 -	1 -	- -
Warwick -	- { 1865 1866	- { 15 11	- { 22 12	- { 5 6	- { 2 3	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	1 4	45 -	- 36
Wide Bay -	- { 1865 1866	- { 7 9	- { 11 12	- { 7 -	- { 8 15	- { -	- { -	- { -	7 12	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	2 3	42 -	- 51
Woogaroo -	- { 1865 1866	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	3 -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	- { -	3 -	- -
Total	- { 1865 1866	- { 153 184	- { 320 311	- { 204 161	- { 61 73	- { 39 36	- { 3 2	- { 56 58	- { 53 53	- { - 8	- { 56 61	- { -	- { 9	124 131	1,074 -	- 1,067

¹ No return for last quarter of 1866.

QUEENS-
LAND.

As regards the registered births of each of the years 1865 and 1866, the respective numbers are: in 1865, 3,532; in 1866, 4,126; the increase during the latter year being in number 594, and the centesimal ratio of increase 16·82.

The respective numbers of the registered deaths of each of those years are: in 1865, 1,733; in 1866, 2,361; the increase in the latter year being in number 628, and the centesimal ratio of increase 36·24.

Comparing the two above ratios of increase with the centesimal increase in the population during the same year 1866, it appears that the increase in births is greater by 7·25 per cent., but that deaths exceed the centesimal increase in the population in the far greater ratio of 26·67 per cent.

In regard to the registered deaths of children, their respective numbers are in the year 1865, below two years of age, 786; two years and under five years of age, 117; total below five years of age, 903; in the year 1866 the respective numbers were 1,000 below two years of age, 172 two and under five, 1,172 below five years of age; the numerical increase being, below two years of age, 214; two and under five years of age, 55; and below five years of age, 269.

The increase above pointed out as having taken place during the past year in the deaths of children is very large and far exceeds its due proportion to the increase in the population. In the case of deaths of children below two years of age, their centesimal increase exceeds the centesimal increase in the population by 17·66 per cent.; of deaths of children of two years and under five years of age in the ratio of 37·44 per cent.; and of deaths of all children under five years of age, the excess is in the ratio of 20·22 per cent.

The large mortality of the past year is by no means confined to children, but seems to have equally affected all ages; for, deducting from the total recorded deaths of all ages the number of deaths of children below five years of age, the remainder shows that the deaths of the last year of persons of five years and upwards of age exceed the centesimal increase in the population by no less than 33·68 per cent.

As a necessary result of the above large mortality it follows, in spite of the large number of births recorded, that the centesimal ratio of increase in the population derived from the registered births and deaths is smaller last year than usual, the respective rates for the last three years being, 1864, 2·33 per cent.; 1865, 2·39 per cent.; 1866, 2·01 per cent.

The last of the preceding tables, lettered G, records the marriages celebrated in each of the years 1865 and 1866. It will be observed that they have during the past year not only not kept pace with the increasing population, but that they show an absolute, although small diminution in their number of 7. The only religious denominations which show any noteworthy increase are the Church of England, the Wesleyan Methodists, and the Lutheran; and the increase they show is more than counterbalanced by the small number celebrated by the Church of Rome, the Presbyterians, and the Baptists. The number of marriages legalized under the Registration Act has slightly increased.

Immigration.

The number of immigrants from Europe who landed in this Colony during the year 1866 was smaller than in the previous year. The following (Table H.) is an abstract from the Immigration Returns published at pages 97 and 98 of the Register, and gives the total number of arrivals during the past year at 9,846 persons:—

H.

Description of Ships.	No. of Ships.	No. of Persons Landed.	Equal to Statute Adults.
Black Ball Ships - - - -	7	7,381	6,361
German Ships - - - -	4	1,304	1,091½
Ships chartered by Emigration Commissioners - -	4	1,157	1,085½
Short Ships - - - -	2	4	4
Total - - -	27	9,846	8,542

The mortality on board the above ships was as follows:—

QUEENS-
LAND.

I.

Description of Ships.	No. of Deaths.	Centesimal Proportion of Deaths to Number Embarked.	Remarks.
Black Ball Ships - - - - -	205	2·78	In addition to the deaths on board ship, 36 deaths occurred while in quarantine, not included in this Return.
German Ships - - - - -	78	5·98	
Ships chartered by Emigration Commissioners .	4	0·34	
Short Ships - - - - -	—	—	
Total - - - - -	287	2·91	

The value of land orders issued during the year 1866 is:—

	£	s.	d.
Non-transferable - - - - -	39,825	0	0
Transferable - - - - -	105,844	10	0
Total - - - - -	£145,669	10	0

It appears by returns compiled by the Customs authorities that the increase to the population, arising last year from excess of arrivals over departures by sea, was 6,632 persons; and as the above immigration returns show an European immigration of 9,846, it follows that during that period the Colony lost, by intercolonial arrivals and departures, 3,214 persons from its population.

Education.

A return of primary schools under the supervision of the Board of General Education, for the year ending 31st December 1866, is published at folio 119 of the Register, from which, "comparing it with the return for the year 1865," it appears that the number of schools has increased from 31 to 39, and that the aggregate attendance of scholars has increased from 6,383 to 7,939, being at the centesimal rate of 24·38. The expenditure for salaries and rent has increased from 6,598*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* to 7,690*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, being at the centesimal rate of 16·55. It follows therefore that the expenditure, in proportion to the aggregate attendance of scholars, is smaller in the year 1866 than in the preceding year; and also that the attendance of pupils bears, in the year 1866, a slightly larger relative proportion to the population than in the year 1865.

As regards the return of private schools, published in the Register at folio 120, it seems, on comparison with the return for 1865, that a considerable increase has occurred in their numbers and in the number of pupils attending them. The relative number of schools is 70 in 1865, 90 in 1866—the increase being at the rate of 28·57 per cent. Of scholars the number is 2,708 in 1865, 3,016 in 1866—the increase being at the rate of 11·40 per cent. This return also shows that the ratio of increase both in the number of private schools as well as in the aggregate number of scholars attending them, is larger than the rate of increase of the population.

Crime.

The following three tables, lettered J, K, L, are summaries of returns of criminal trials and convictions before the Central Criminal Court holden at Brisbane, and the circuit courts of the Colony; (2nd) of trials and convictions before the district courts of the Colony; (3rd) the criminal business of the courts of petty sessions; further details being given at pages 75, 78, and 79 of the Register.

J.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL and CIRCUIT COURTS, 1866.

Offences.	Brisbane.	Ipswich.	Too-woomba.	Mary-borough.	Rock-hampton.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Total Tried.
Murder - - -	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	2
Other Felonies - - -	21	19	31	8	16	28	67	95
Misdemeanors - - -	1	3	2	—	5	2	9	11
Total - - -	23	22	33	8	22	32	76	108

K.

DISTRICT COURTS, 1866.

Offences.	Metropolitan District.	Northern District.	Western District.	Remanded or Discharged.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Total Tried.
Felonies - - -	26	26	30	5	31	46	82
Misdemeanors - - -	33	32	35	6	38	56	100
Total - - -	59	58	65	11	69	102	182

L.

COURTS of PETTY SESSIONS, 1866.

Offences.	Taken into Custody.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted Summarily.	Discharged.	Total.
Against person - - -	426	54	238	134	426
Against property - - -	763	218	238	307	763
Against Merchant Seamen's Act - - -	209	—	179	30	209
Against Master and Servants Act - - -	145	—	101	44	145
Drunkenness - - -	2,283	—	1,758	525	2,283
Vagrancy - - -	320	1	255	64	320
All other offences - - -	437	22	278	137	437
Total - - -	4,583	295	3,047	1,241	4,583

Comparing the above with the crime tables of the year 1865, it will be observed that the total number of persons taken into custody by the courts of petty sessions has diminished somewhat in the latter year, the principal diminution being under the heads of drunkenness and vagrancy. In the year 1863 the proportion of persons taken into custody by the police and dealt with by the courts of petty sessions was 5·44 to each 100 persons in the Colony; in the year 1864 the proportion was 5·73 to each 100 persons; in 1865 the proportion was 5·79; and in the year 1866 it was 4·77, showing a marked diminution in the number taken into custody. On the other hand, the number of offences tried before the Central Criminal, circuit, and district courts has considerably increased. In 1865 the total number tried before the superior courts of the Colony was 136, of

whom 99 were convicted; in the year 1866 the number tried was 290, of whom 178 were convicted, the number of convictions being nearly twice as great in the latter as in the former year.

Out of 4,583 persons taken into custody by the police during the year 1866, it will be observed that the large number of 3,609 could both read and write, that 290 could read but not write, and that 684 could neither read or write; the centesimal proportions being of those who can both read and write 78·75, of those who can read but not write 6·33, and of those who can neither read nor write 14·92 per cent. of the total number taken into custody.

Banks.—Government Savings Bank.

Full returns of the business of this establishment for the year 1866, being the second year of its existence, are published in the Register, at pages 80, 81, and 82.

The benefits and advantages afforded by this bank have, during the course of the two years of its existence, been extended to most of the towns of the Colony, by the establishment of branch offices, and have been largely availed of by the public. On the 31st December 1865 there stood in the books of the bank the sum of 56,582*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, to the credit of 1,803 depositors; on the 31st December 1866 this sum had increased to 86,759*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, and was to the credit of 2,484 depositors. This is a very rapid increase, and if reference be had to the great scarcity and high value of money during, at any rate, the greater part of last year, the amount deposited must, in proportion to the population of the Colony, be considered unusually large. The number of depositors has increased at the rate of 37·77 per cent., and the amount deposited at the rate of 53·33 per cent. on the respective number and amount of the year 1865.

Joint Stock Banks.

The following table gives the aggregate banking transactions of the several private banks carrying on business in the Colony, for each quarter of each year since the 1st of January 1860. Looking to the last quarter of each year, it will be seen that notes in circulation, bills in circulation, and discounts have all diminished greatly since the corresponding quarter of the previous year—notes at the rate of 43·05, bills at the rate of 111·10, and discounts at the rate of 6·12 per cent.; whilst on the other hand coin and bullion have increased, the former at the rate 13·27, and the latter at the rate of 18·19 per cent. Deposits have diminished at the rate of 2·71 per cent.; but inasmuch as under this heading are included balances of accounts current not bearing interest, as well as fixed deposits bearing interest, the information derived therefrom is not of much value. To give their full value to the above changes it must be borne in mind that the population of the Colony has during the same space of time increased at the rate of 9·57 per cent.

QUEENS-
LAND

M.

TABLE comparing the aggregate LIABILITIES and ASSETS of the COLONIAL BANKING ESTABLISHMENTS at the TERMINATION of each QUARTER of the Years 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866.

Quarters of the Year.	Year.	LIABILITIES.										ASSETS.													
		Notes in Circulation.		Bills in Circulation.		Balances due to other Banks.		Deposits.		Total Liabilities.		Coin.		Bullion.		Landed Property.		Notes and Bills of other Banks.		Balances due from other Banks and Branches.		Bills discounted, and all other Debts due to the Banks.		Total Assets.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
First Quarter	1860	32,734	16 6	2,419	7 7	57,161	1 5	166,574	10 6	258,889	16 0	52,677	3 1	Nil.		7,172	5 2	4,804	18 8	1,166	11 5	390,250	8 9	456,071	7 1
	1861	46,975	11 8	2,889	5 2	52	18 1	310,842	6 3	360,760	1 2	66,225	3 4	51	8 6	14,235	17 7	1,290	15 10	5,374	10 8	558,895	5 5	596,073	1 4
	1862	78,110	10 1	5,710	7 5	726	13 2	310,843	1 1	395,390	11 9	86,015	14 5	113	15 3	19,491	5 1	1,860	1 2	5,965	10 8	630,686	12 11	744,132	19 6
	1863	89,165	12 10	9,971	0 0	102,634	19 3	368,348	19 11	570,120	12 0	108,455	19 4	Nil.		27,283	12 4	3,917	3 1	2,226	7 11	789,239	8 3	931,122	10 11
	1864	122,916	3 4	16,126	13 3	180,371	18 10	568,318	9 7	887,733	14 5	160,162	3 4	553	18 1	36,007	8 10	8,579	12 1	7,694	16 1	1,234,653	16 10	1,447,651	15 3
	1865	172,615	16 3	20,320	7 2	19,271	12 10	754,360	7 10	966,567	14 1	177,809	17 6	19,222	2 11	41,671	10 0	15,746	7 6	12,292	18 6	1,630,792	6 0	1,897,535	2 5
1866	190,165	16 6	17,631	1 2	29,777	3 10	770,102	10 6	1,037,676	12 0	193,173	15 0	6,369	14 6	54,364	12 7	10,991	18 8	24,409	13 9	2,083,256	16 8	2,372,566	12 2	
Second Quarter	1860	35,744	19 11	2,396	7 10	47	17 1	182,435	4 5	220,824	9 3	58,385	2 11	39	11 5	7,946	19 0	1,694	19 11	2,844	16 1	420,138	16 4	491,050	5 8
	1861	52,143	9 2	3,451	3 7	778	10 0	267,351	16 8	323,724	19 5	71,292	1 7	43	12 6	16,363	6 10	1,672	9 8	6,901	19 2	504,818	1 4	611,091	11 1
	1862	80,773	11 5	7,284	14 11	595	11 5	314,769	17 11	403,423	15 8	90,691	5 3	Nil.		21,415	9 10	2,477	7 8	4,149	1 11	652,029	8 4	770,762	13 0
	1863	93,078	5 5	12,983	12 9	1,880	15 7	412,591	16 7	520,534	10 4	114,641	6 6	Nil.		29,197	6 9	4,248	13 11	2,334	8 8	891,873	7 11	1,042,295	3 9
	1864	129,518	19 5	20,398	15 6	16,436	18 0	675,020	15 1	841,375	8 0	206,064	15 1	1,372	14 7	35,820	17 11	7,881	2 7	11,849	3 4	1,286,689	3 2	1,549,677	16 8
	1865	170,209	17 8	23,055	2 1	24,318	4 10	756,613	13 11	971,196	18 9	180,961	17 11	7,561	1 5	44,901	2 9	10,669	5 6	14,910	12 9	1,674,249	3 5	1,933,253	3 9
1866	181,781	16 4	21,808	16 9	22,955	19 8	776,423	8 2	1,002,970	0 11	197,247	15 7	5,319	5 4	56,835	11 6	11,345	12 9	18,472	3 9	2,213,295	17 11	2,502,516	6 10	
Third Quarter	1860	39,963	3 5	7,920	3 3	18	7 8	236,337	5 0	284,238	19 4	61,289	13 10	86	8 1	11,996	18 3	1,289	11 11	4,730	17 11	472,537	11 4	551,931	1 4
	1861	56,773	6 3	3,617	13 0	5,024	9 1	266,700	10 9	332,115	19 1	78,869	2 2	46	1 4	16,475	6 1	1,548	4 1	4,325	4 6	590,308	7 10	691,572	6 0
	1862	79,599	11 5	18,468	15 7	941	17 11	344,542	14 3	443,552	19 2	96,166	2 4	Nil.		21,709	0 11	2,337	18 6	5,813	6 1	683,862	15 9	809,889	3 7
	1863	98,201	7 10	20,382	3 9	7,007	9 1	435,877	1 2	561,468	1 10	117,332	16 5	8	7 4	32,118	7 4	3,913	12 5	5,425	18 3	998,726	19 5	1,157,526	1 2
	1864	141,629	16 3	28,180	0 7	25,433	4 3	672,435	19 11	867,679	1 0	201,904	19 10	6,236	4 7	36,022	1 8	8,615	15 6	13,592	16 3	1,427,928	7 2	1,694,320	5 0
	1865	174,394	4 10	21,154	15 6	26,996	9 5	780,845	3 6	1,013,390	13 3	196,134	19 1	4,810	6 9	49,159	17 10	8,201	0 8	17,493	0 5	1,858,005	19 10	2,133,805	4 7
1866	185,496	17 5	28,337	9 5	31,428	6 3	806,743	10 8	1,052,006	3 9	225,575	2 7	5,841	15 5	57,723	15 2	11,921	6 9	17,460	11 9	2,300,963	3 11	2,619,485	15 7	
Fourth Quarter	1860	42,765	11 8	2,473	18 11	17	2 10	286,917	1 4	332,173	14 9	63,843	6 7	43	14 11	13,749	18 8	1,293	14 9	4,870	4 4	490,860	2 5	574,661	1 8
	1861	63,104	12 4	4,499	17 5	323	5 3	322,310	5 5	390,238	0 5	84,916	8 6	40	8 6	18,016	0 7	1,527	7 3	8,101	16 1	618,315	18 1	730,917	19 0
	1862	87,103	4 10	11,903	6 0	2,083	17 4	341,155	8 8	442,245	16 10	105,268	11 6	Nil.		25,338	9 8	2,286	14 1	4,107	1 10	751,678	5 10	888,879	2 11
	1863	107,634	1 10	14,351	5 10	4,189	16 5	472,765	16 0	598,941	0 1	128,632	4 1	1,253	7 6	34,542	6 1	8,649	0 2	6,894	18 1	1,055,989	5 3	1,235,961	1 2
	1864	137,799	3 5	22,398	11 11	11,057	8 4	757,153	19 4	928,409	3 0	178,503	11 0	13,510	0 3	38,874	19 11	17,201	16 11	6,504	0 8	1,571,188	5 9	1,825,782	14 6
	1865	181,615	2 4	25,060	11 3	23,336	9 11	770,912	8 9	1,000,924	10 0	193,017	6 5	5,390	1 9	52,632	5 10	9,118	6 3	18,195	5 0	2,023,207	15 0	2,281,461	0 3
1866	126,957	6 6	11,871	17 1	16,235	1 4	750,604	14 1	905,668	19 0	218,656	15 1	8,055	9 9	62,091	6 0	7,765	19 11	22,287	14 10	1,906,579	14 2	2,225,436	19 9	

To complete an estimate of the banking transactions of the past year it is necessary to take into account the issue of notes by the Government, as provided for by the Queensland Act of Parliament, 30th Victoria, No. 11, which Act came into operation on the 1st November 1866. By reference to the return published at page 114 of the Register it will be seen that on the 31st of December 1866 the total value of said notes in circulation was 24,697*l.*; adding this sum to the notes circulated by the private banks makes the total note circulation of the Colony, on the 31st December 1866, to have been 151,654*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, or 33,842*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* smaller in amount than the note circulation at the end of the previous year, 1865.

Live Stock.

RETURN of the LIVE STOCK in the COLONY of QUEENSLAND.

	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
	52,311	919,414	7,278,778	13,529

The above return, so far as the number of sheep is concerned, is compiled partly from information collected by the police, and partly from returns forwarded to the Treasury by the owners of sheep stations in compliance with the Queensland Act of Parliament, 27th Victoria, No. 2, "Scab in Sheep Act." The returns furnished in compliance with this Act of Parliament are made up to the 31st June of each year, and therefore wherever I have had to use them the number of sheep returned in that district is probably somewhat smaller than would have been the case had the return been made up to the 31st of December following; it is only in those instances where no returns have been received from the police that I have had recourse to the Treasury returns as supplying the best information within my reach. Comparing the above return with that of the year 1865, it appears by the following table N. that a fair increase has taken place in each description of stock, except pigs.

N.

		1865.	1866.	Numerical Increase* or Decrease.†	Centesimal Increase* or Decrease.†
Horses	- -	51,001	52,311	*1,310	*2.57
Cattle	- -	848,346	919,414	*71,068	*8.38
Sheep	- -	6,594,966	7,278,778	*683,812	*10.37
Pigs -	- -	14,888	13,961	†927	†6.23

Further detailed information of the quantity of live stock in each district of the Colony for the two years 1865 and 1866, showing the numerical and centesimal increase in each, is given in the following table :—

TABLE showing the NUMBER of LIVE STOCK in the COLONY of QUEENSLAND in the Years 1865 and 1866.

District.	1865.				1866.			
	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Banana - - -	895	5,610	278,122	74	1,170	6,848	328,075	20
Bowen - - -	860	31,864	133,957	191	693	27,736	151,429	209
Brisbane - - -	5,237	57,506	4,189	5,343	4,165	26,704	5,553	3,567
Logan - - -	221	2,024	304	280	1,093	24,884	371	595
Burke ¹ - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	134,284	—
Cardwell - - -	—	—	—	—	491	11,308	45,567	2
Charleville - - -	2,500	41,072	372,312	5	2,50	41,072	441,382	5
Clermont - - -	1,178	9,264	490,086	139	942	10,589	452,723	58
Condamine - - -	566	8,025	98,466	15	515	5,605	117,551	47
Dalby - - -	2,099	24,993	685,897	335	2,058	24,873	667,150	455
Drayton and Toowoomba - -	3,892	19,009	521,079	1,526	3,731	14,059	386,823	1,733
Gayndah - - -	3,239	75,362	744,922	202	3,432	73,613	764,441	209
Gladstone - - -	1,520	48,858	56,406	454	1,670	54,981	83,134	281
Goondiwindi - - -	3,960	31,726	122,076	276	3,207	23,593	102,975	147
Ipswich - - -	7,098	112,429	115,575	2,339	5,018	93,572	129,717	2,421
Leyburn - - -	1,005	19,106	245,001	305	1,470	21,291	248,418	371
Mackay - - -	367	11,043	37,040	86	271	11,905	100	99
Mitchell ² - - -	331	5,297	148,581	—	274	13,237	209,663	—
Nanango - - -	1,493	28,003	120,621	74	1,216	25,216	149,172	—
Nebo - - -	—	—	—	—	343	7,337	114,925	25
Princhester - - -	517	19,313	57,779	158	453	17,907	72,350	320
Rockhampton - - -	2,836	27,399	299,532	1,411	3,052	40,946	173,107	1,406
Roma - - -	679	9,929	439,395	—	1,042	9,677	612,563	44
Somerset ³ - - -	21	300	45	20	21	350	3,000	—
Springsure - - -	1,021	7,770	456,419	30	1,189	10,373	554,428	68
St. George - - -	2,972	101,430	176,773	46	3,467	109,767	175,062	76
Surat - - -	535	30,624	142,161	30	749	31,340	134,619	43
Taroom - - -	1,117	8,846	372,051	8	1,261	10,401	510,546	27
Townsville - - -	—	—	—	—	616	21,396	105,450	68
Warwick - - -	2,845	20,933	267,250	1,213	3,259	29,463	321,542	870
Waverley - - -	703	13,881	164,907	65	424	12,214	902	53
Wide Bay - - -	1,334	76,730	44,020	263	2,519	107,157	81,756	702
Total - - -	51,091	848,346	6,594,966	14,888	52,311	919,414	7,278,778	13,961

¹ No returns having been received from this district, the number of sheep is taken from the sworn returns furnished to the Treasury.

² Only eleven stations in this district have sent in returns.

³ The number of sheep given is taken from the returns furnished to the Treasury.

I have on former occasions alluded to the unsatisfactory condition in which the live stock and agricultural returns reach this office, and a reference to the foregoing table, and to the notes at foot thereof, do not show much improvement. From two districts no returns whatever have been forwarded, and in one the horses and cattle are given, but not the sheep. Such omissions as these necessarily tend to shake confidence in correctness of the returns from the other districts. I do not think that the fault lies this year with the police, who, as far as I can judge, appear to have exerted themselves to make the returns as perfect as lay in their power. It is to be hoped that the value of speedy

and reliable statistical information about subjects of such grave importance to the Colony as the state of its agriculture and the increase or decrease of its live stock will shortly be so generally recognized in Queensland as to lead to the discontinuance of the present imperfect means of collection, and the substitution of some more effective and reliable plan for obtaining the desired returns.

Crown Lands.

P.

RETURN of the QUANTITY of LAND SOLD, GRANTED, or LEASED by the CROWN during the Year 1866, with the Money received therefrom.

	Area.	Value.	Total.	
			Area.	Value.
	Acres.	£	Acres.	£
Land sold by Public Auction - - -	41,037	68,425		
Pre-emptive Sales - - -	62,548	62,548		
Non-competitive Sales - - -	280	650		
Mineral Lands - - -	610	579		
Sales in Agricultural Reserves - - -	9,123	9,123		
Total Lands sold - - -	-	-	113,598	141,325
Land leased in Agricultural Reserves - - -	3,173	397		
Ditto 6d. per Acre - - -	5,526	138		
Ditto Sugar Regulations - - -	7,470	374		
Ditto Leasing Act, 30 Vict., No. 12 - - -	15,211	1,896		
Total Lands leased - - -	-	-	31,380	2,805
Grants for Special Purposes - - -	713	-		
Grants under Cotton Regulations - - -	-	-		
Total Lands granted - - -	-	-	713	-

In the year 1865 the total quantity of land sold was 145,799 acres, which realized the sum of 224,403*l*. There is therefore a falling off in the quantity sold in the year 1866 of 32,201 acres, and in the amount realized in the sum of 83,078*l*.; the diminution in the area sold being at the rate of 22·09 per cent., and in the value thereof at the rate of 37·02 per cent. It is worthy of remark that the quantity of land sold by public auction is larger by 4,979 acres in the year 1866 than in the year 1865, and that the great falling off in the total quantity sold is found under the head of Pre-emptive sales, the respective quantities sold being 101,856 acres in 1865, and 62,548 acres in 1866.

The quantity of land alienated in fee by the Crown within the limits of and since the foundation of the present Colony of Queensland amounted, on the 31st December 1866, to 616,293 acres. The following table, Q, gives the quantity of land sold by public auction in each Commissioner's district during each of the years 1864, 1865, and 1866.

Q.

Year.	Moreton.	Darling Downs.	Port Curtis.	Wide Bay and Burnett.	Kennedy.	Leichhardt.	Maranoa.	Total.
	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.	A.
1864	25,508	5,652	4,809	1,518	3,676	9	21	41,194
1865	28,435	5,967	1,850	2,038	2,261	237	267	36,058
1866	20,787	11,024	2,394	2,044	3,420	443	922	41,037

The total quantity of land under the provisions of the Real Property Act of 1861 was, on the 31st December 1865, 426,833 acres 1 rood 10½ perches; to this must be added, as the result of last year's operations, the further quantity of 127,942 acres 1 rood 10½ perches, making a total of land under the above Act, on the 31st December 1866, of 554,775 acres 2 roods and 21 perches. The total quantity of land within the limits of the Colony alienated in fee by the Crown, before and since separation, amounted, on the 31st December 1866, to 694,345 acres. The proportion which the land under the provisions of the Real Property Act bears to the whole quantity of land alienated in fee by the Crown was, on the 31st December 1866, 79·90 per cent., that is to say, that out of each 100 acres alienated as above by the Crown very nearly 80 acres are under the provisions of the above Real Property Act.

QUEENS-
LAND.

As the quantity of land not under the above Act each year diminishes, it necessarily follows that the year's applications to bring portions of it under the Act become less numerous; on the other hand, the various dealings with land already under the Act rapidly increase.

Real Property Transfer Office.

The following tables exhibit in detail the work of the above Office since its formation on the 1st January 1862, also the aggregate receipts and expenditure for the same period.

R.

	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	Total.
Number of applications to bring land under the "Real Property Act."	485	530	650	499	363	2,527
Number of conveyances of land under the "Real Property Act"	376	1,317	2,397	3,153	3,180	10,423
Number of mortgages of land under the "Real Property Act"	36	107	306	619	926	1,994
Number of discharges of mortgages under the "Real Property Act."	—	—	—	—	233	233
Number of other dealings - - - - -	6	32	62	249	351	700
Number of deeds of grant registered under the "Real Property Act."	1,442	2,589	3,106	3,338	2,933	13,408
Total number of transactions - - -	2,345	4,575	6,521	7,858	7,986	29,285
Number of certificates of title issued in pursuance of the above	612	2,060	3,009	4,024	3,860	13,565

S.

STATEMENT of all SUMS received into the REAL PROPERTY OFFICE during each year of its existence.

	Fees of Office.	Assurance Fund.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - - - - -	1,031 1 1	286 9 4	1,317 10 5
1863 - - - - -	2,031 10 10	377 10 10	2,409 1 8
1864 - - - - -	3,378 5 4	716 1 0	4,094 6 4
1865 - - - - -	4,127 16 11	579 9 9	4,707 6 8
1866 - - - - -	4,592 18 9	490 1 11	5,083 0 8
Total - - - - -	15,161 12 11	2,449 12 10	17,611 5 9

STATEMENT of AMOUNTS paid on account of SALARIES and CONTINGENCIES from 1st January 1862 to 31st December 1866.

	Salaries.	Contingencies.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865	5,589 16 4	1,628 5 9	7,218 2 1
1866 - - - - -	2,427 6 0	532 11 9	2,959 17 9
Total - - - - -	8,017 2 4	2,160 17 6	10,177 19 10

N.B.—No claim against the assurance fund has been received.

Agriculture.

The following return shows the quantity of land under cultivation to have been 24,433 acres on the 31st December 1866. This is a large increase on 14,414 acres, the quantity returned as under cultivation on the 31st December 1865; the per-centage of increase is 69.51.

T.

COMPARATIVE VIEW of the STATE of AGRICULTURE in each DISTRICT of QUEENSLAND, for the Years 1865 and 1866.

District.	Year.	Wheat.	Maize.	Barley.	Oats.	Millet.	Potatoes.	Cotton.	Arrowroot.	Sugar Cane.	Tobacco.	Green Fodder.	Dry Fodder.	Gardens.	All other Crops.	Vineyards.	Total.
Banana	1865	2 2 0	2 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 2 0	..	..	..
Bowen	1865	..	2 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 2 0	..	..	..
Brisbane	1865	..	92 2 0	..	8 0 0	7 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13 0 0	..	..	..
Brisbane	1866	..	97 0 0	..	..	10 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20 0 0	..	..	..
Brisbane	1865	18 0 0	2 078 2 20	13 1 0	88 0 0	6 1 0	536 1 5	249 0 12	2 1 26	316 0 50	2 1 5	172 0 0	560 3 0	463 1 32	183 3 85	..	..
Brisbane	1866	6 0 0	2 365 0 50	18 3 0	149 2 0	24 3 4	754 3 24	295 1 31	13 1 39	103 0 56	4 1 11	439 0 0	1 129 0 21	763 1 32	..	..	..
Clermont	1865	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 2 0	..	..	..
Clermont	1866	..	3 0 0	..	0 2 0	..	1 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 2 0	..	..	..
Condamine	1865	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 2 10	..	..	..
Dalby	1865	..	21 0 32	..	..	..	1 1 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 3 0	..	..	..
Dalby	1866	..	27 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21 1 24	..	..	..
Drayton and Toowoomba	1865	298 2 20	1 065 3 28	19 1 20	26 2 0	10 2 0	381 1 26	..	..	..	..	127 2 0	149 3 0	40 2 7	..	..	..
Gayndah	1865	27 4 0 0	1 583 1 10	23 5 10	64 0 20	0 1 0	441 0 24	7 0 36	0 1 0	0 1 0	2 2 1	91 1 20	464 1 0	81 3 13	..	..	..
Gayndah	1866	..	..	..	..	..	14 3 20	0 1 0	..	..	3 3 10	13 3 0	9 0 0	32 0 1	..	..	..
Gladstone	1865	..	53 1 23	2 0 0	4 0 0	0 0 10	1 1 1	0 1 0	..	..	..	4 3 0	6 2 0	82 3 1	..	..	..
Gladstone	1866	..	18 2 0	..	..	..	1 1 1	7 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	23 2 12	..	..	..
Gladstone	1865	..	14 1 0	..	..	5 0 0	0 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	96 3 23	..	..	..
Gladstone	1866	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32 2 0	..	..	..
Goondiwindi	1865	..	3 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 0 10	..	..	..
Goondiwindi	1866	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 0 0	..	..	..
Ipwich	1865	2 2 0	692 3 20	13 3 0	111 2 0	2 0 0	63 2 20	180 1 0	..	..	..	76 0 0	388 1 0	145 3 1	..	..	..
Ipwich	1866	..	905 1 0	10 3 0	150 0 0	10 3 4	112 3 4	1 067 3 0	..	..	..	98 1 12	550 2 0	277 1 27	..	..	..
Leyburn	1865	16 0 0	13 0 0	..	2 0 0	0 2 1	3 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 2 0	..	..	..
Leyburn	1866	16 0 0	21 1 2	..	1 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14 0 0	..	..	..
Logan	1865	43 1 0	323 1 0	1 2 0	5 0 0	2 1 0	122 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	16 2 12	..	..	..
Logan	1866	..	134 2 0	..	..	..	109 1 0	655 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	64 2 0	..	..	..
Mackay	1865	..	174 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 2 0	..	..	..
Mackay	1866	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98 0 0	..	..	..
Maryborough	1865	1 1 0	323 3 0	..	9 0 0	3 1 0	40 0 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	37 2 20	..	..	..
Maryborough	1866	0 2 4	443 0 0	..	16 0 0	..	66 3 0	132 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	107 0 0	..	..	..
Namango	1865	..	22 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 2 20	..	..	..
Namango	1866	1 0 0	23 0 0	..	2 0 0	..	0 2 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 2 0	..	..	..
Princhester	1865	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Princhester	1866	..	1 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rockhampton	1865	..	103 1 0	..	2 2 0	16 2 0	1 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	105 2 20	..	..	..
Rockhampton	1866	1 0 0	53 3 0	4 2 0	16 3 0	4 2 0	11 2 1	6 0 0	0 1 0	0 2 1	..	..	..	102 3 23	..	..	..
Roma	1865	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Roma	1866	..	7 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Springvale	1865	..	3 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Springvale	1866	..	11 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. George	1865	..	2 1 0	..	1 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. George	1866	4 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Surat	1865	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Surat	1866	..	1 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taroom	1865	..	2 2 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taroom	1866	..	4 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Townsville	1865	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Townsville	1866	..	10 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Warwick	1865	1 792 1 0	1 466 1 0	21 0 0	74 0 0	2 0 0	142 0 11	..	..	60 0 0	..	207 1 0	239 2 0	56 3 0	..	..	..
Warwick	1866	2 220 1 0	2 471 2 0	51 0 0	185 2 0	3 1 0	69 0 0	1 0 0	..	..	..	36 3 0	505 2 0	216 0 0	..	..	..
Waverley	1865	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Waverley	1866	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	1865	2 063 2 20	6 244 0 1	74 1 20	348 0 0	37 3 1	1 306 3 54	477 3 12	15 3 28	449 2 26	18 3 6	720 1 0	1 449 1 0	1 062 3 34	..	..	..
Totals	1866	2 565 0 4	9 930 2 25	113 0 10	703 1 20	78 0 13	1 537 1 30	2 584 1 27	42 3 7	607 3 38	19 0 22	734 2 35	2 378 1 21	1 550 0 35	534 1 27	..	..

QUEENS-
LAND.

The principal heads under which this increase is most apparent are maize, cotton, and hay or dry fodder. Cotton especially shows an average nearly sixfold greater than was the case in the year 1865; the Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan, and Maryborough districts are those which have mainly produced the increase in cotton. Although the returns of land under sugar cultivation show in the aggregate an increase of about 50 per cent. on the quantity returned in the year 1865, the total amount is small, and it will doubtless be observed that a decrease appears in the Brisbane district, arising from a large plantation having been allowed during the past year temporarily to fall out of cultivation.

Under this head it may be as well to draw attention to last year's importations of grain and other agricultural productions of those descriptions capable of being grown in the Colony.

U.

				Quantity.	Value.			Remarks.
					£	s.	d.	
Wheat	-	-	bushels	5,063	1,573	0	0	This list might have been made longer by the addition of tobacco, sugar, arrowroot, butter, cheese, poultry, &c. &c.
Barley	-	-	"	1,591	420	0	0	
Oats	-	-	"	16,856	5,099	0	0	
Maize	-	-	"	191,059	45,268	0	0	
Hay and straw	-	-	bales	11,281	21,137	0	0	
Potatoes	-	-	cwt.	78,668	28,503	0	0	
Onions	-	-	lbs.	409,870	3,466	0	0	
Oatmeal and maize meal	-	-	cwt.	2,125	3,486	0	0	
Flour	-	-	tons	14,637	261,205	0	0	
Total					370,157	0	0	

Shipping.

The shipping returns for the year 1866 show a considerable increase during the year in the number of ships trading to Queensland. This increase has principally taken place in the intercolonial commerce. The total numbers of ships entered inwards and cleared outwards, with their aggregate tonnage and crews, are given below for each of the years 1865 and 1866.

V.

Year.	Entered inwards.			Cleared outwards.		
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1865	497	173,227	12,294	488	167,153	11,791
1866	569	197,665	13,773	556	195,991	13,567
Numerical increase	72	24,438	1,479	68	28,838	1,776
Centesimal increase	14.49	14.11	12.03	13.93	17.25	15.06

The nationality of all ships trading to or from the Colony during the year 1866 is given in the following table.

W.

Nationality.	Entered inwards.			Cleared outwards.		
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.
Great Britain	40	34,671	1,192	37	32,716	948
France	1	61	10	1	61	9
Germany	5	3,312	96	5	3,311	91
Denmark	2	553	21	2	553	24
British Possessions	521	159,068	12,454	511	159,350	12,495
Total	569	197,665	13,773	556	195,991	13,567

The country from whence the above ships have arrived, or whither they have sailed, as well as the particular port in Queensland which they entered or left, will be found by reference to the shipping tables published at pages 99 and 101 of the Register.

Trade.

The estimated value of the exports and imports by sea of the year 1866 is—

Imports by sea	£2,467,907
Exports by sea	£1,366,491

of the overland trade with the neighbouring colonies no record is at present obtainable.

Comparing the above returns with those for the year 1865, it appears that during the year 1866 the imports have diminished in value by 37,652*l.*, or at the rate of 1·50 per cent. on the imports of the year 1865; and that exports have increased in value by 213,027*l.*, or at the rate of 18·46 per cent. on the exports of the year 1865.

A further examination of the trade returns for the last two years shows that the exportation of goods which are the produce or the manufacture of Queensland have increased in estimated value during the year 1866 by the sum of 175,922*l.*, or at the rate of 15·73 per cent. on the similar exports of the year 1865; and that the re-exportation of goods the produce or the manufacture of other countries or colonies has increased in the year 1866 by the sum of 37,105*l.*, or at the rate of 103·89 per cent. on the value of similar exports in the year 1865.

X.

TOTAL VALUE in Sterling of the IMPORTS and EXPORTS of the COLONY of QUEENSLAND, from and to each Country, in the Years 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, and 1866.

	Year.	Imports therefrom.			Exports thereto.			Increase per cent.* or Decrease per cent.†	
								Imports.	Exports.
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	£
Great Britain	1860	56,730	0	0	—	—	—	—	—
	1861	90,905	0	0	119,515	0	0	* 60·24	—
	1862	215,509	0	0	238,553	0	0	* 137·07	* 99·60
	1863	365,093	0	0	233,392	0	0	* 69·41	† 21·63
	1864	506,697	0	0	354,636	0	0	* 38·79	* 51·95
	1865	713,545	0	0	240,550	0	0	* 40·82	† 32·17
	1866	742,884	0	0	321,939	0	0	* 4·11	* 33·83
Australian Colonies and New Zealand	1860	523,165	0	0	161,546	0	0	—	—
	1861	874,797	13	11	589,633	15	0	* 67·21	* 264·99
	1862	1,100,935	0	0	550,839	0	0	* 25·85	† 6·58
	1863	1,335,606	0	0	649,299	0	0	* 21·32	* 17·87
	1864	1,746,871	0	0	892,320	0	0	* 30·79	* 37·43
	1865	1,783,737	0	0	912,824	0	0	* 2·11	* 2·29
	1866	1,711,895	0	0	1,027,918	0	0	† 4·03	* 12·61
Germany	1860	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1861	1,180	0	0	—	—	—	—	—
	1862	4,688	0	0	—	—	—	* 29·73	—
	1863	12,539	0	0	—	—	—	* 16·53	—
	1864	7,370	0	0	—	—	—	† 41·22	—
	1865	8,277	0	0	—	—	—	* 12·30	—
	1866	3,921	0	0	—	—	—	† 52·63	—
India, China, Ceylon, Batavia, Penang, and Guam.	1860	—	—	—	311	0	0	—	—
	1861	—	—	—	450	0	0	—	* 44·69
	1862	3	0	0	1,876	0	0	—	* 316·89
	1863	—	—	—	4,521	0	0	—	* 140·99
	1864	—	—	—	94	0	0	—	† 97·92
	1865	—	—	—	13	0	0	—	† 86·17
	1866	9,059	0	0	16,396	0	0	—	* 126,023·08
South America	1860	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1861	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1862	—	—	—	1,968	0	0	—	—
	1863	—	—	—	706	0	0	—	† 64·13
	1864	6,880	0	0	4	0	0	—	† 99·43
	1865	—	—	—	77	0	0	—	—
	1866	—	—	—	88	0	0	—	* 14·29
New Caledonia	1860	—	—	—	311	0	0	—	—
	1861	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1862	2,394	0	0	—	—	—	—	—
	1863	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1864	36	0	0	—	—	—	—	—
	1865	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1866	—	—	—	150	0	0	—	—
South Sea Islands and Coral Sea Fishery.	1860	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1861	1,068	0	0	—	—	—	—	—
	1862	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1863	25	0	0	463	0	0	—	—
	1864	100	0	0	—	—	—	* 300·00	—
	1865	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1866	148	0	0	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1860	742,023	0	0	523,476	0	0	—	—
	1861	967,950	13	11	709,598	15	0	* 30·45	* 35·56
	1862	1,323,509	0	0	793,236	0	0	* 36·73	* 11·79
	1863	1,713,263	0	0	888,381	0	0	* 29·45	* 11·99
	1864	2,267,954	0	0	1,247,054	0	0	* 32·38	* 40·37
	1865	2,505,559	0	0	1,153,464	0	0	* 10·48	† 7·55
	1866	2,467,907	0	0	1,366,491	0	0	† 1·50	* 18·46

QUEENS-
LAND.

By the above table it appears that the direct trade of the Colony with Great Britain has increased under the heads of both Imports and Exports, the former at the rate of 4·11 per cent. and the latter at the rate of 33·17 per cent.; while the trade with the other Australian colonies has under the head of Imports diminished at the rate of 4·03 per cent., and of Exports has increased at the rate of 12·61.

The value of the following table, showing the yearly quantity and estimated value of wool exported from Queensland since its formation as a Colony, is much diminished by no distinction having been made between washed and unwashed wool. Last year for the first time this distinction is drawn, and will in future years be of much service.

Y.

YEARLY EXPORT OF WOOL.

Years.	To Great Britain.		To New South Wales.		Total.	
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
1860 -	—	—	5,007,167	444,188	5,007,167	444,188
1861 -	1,415,991	109,425	5,578,042	503,649	6,994,033	613,074
1862 -	2,522,662	195,506	5,540,950	431,676	8,063,612	627,182
1863 -	2,502,064	213,688	8,166,980	563,088	10,669,044	776,776
1864 -	3,932,715	337,818	10,074,074	699,845	14,006,789	1,037,663
1865 -	2,507,579	197,826	9,744,262	687,473	12,251,841	885,299
1866 {	Clean	3,169,768	272,754	8,830,457	14,346,239	987,659
	Grease	259,358	16,462	2,086,656		

It will be seen by the foregoing table that the export of wool in the year 1866 was larger than in the previous year. The difference in quantity shipped was 2,094,398 lbs., being an increase at the rate of 17·09 per cent. on the quantity exported in the year 1865; the increase in the estimated value is 102,360£., being at the rate of 11·56 per cent. on the estimated value of the previous year, 1865. The difference observable in the respective centesimal rates of increase of the quantity and value of wool shipped arises from a smaller average rate of value per pound having been given to the wool in the latter year. In the year 1865 the average estimated value was 17·34£. per pound, in 1866 it was 16·52£. per pound.

Many causes, arising from the weather, the state of the roads, the labour market, &c. &c., disturb the yearly estimates of wool exported, and tend improperly to increase or diminish the shipments of each individual year. The safest way to calculate the increase is to take the average yearly rate of increase of the whole number of years over which the table extends, this average will be found to be 31·08 per cent. per annum.

The quantity and estimated value of cotton exported in 1866 is greater than in the year 1865. The quantity shipped in 1866 was 207,272 lbs., and its estimated value 19,618£., showing an increase on the previous year of 61,452 lbs., estimated to be of the value of 7,421£. These figures are still small, and deserve notice principally as showing the commencement and growth of an industry likely to become hereafter of great importance.

Next to wool the largest increase in any export of Queensland produce is to be found under the head "Live stock," the total estimated value being 38,948£., the increase on the shipments of the year 1865 being estimated at 32,544£. Provisions and copper ore also show a large increase on the shipments of 1865, the former of 16,503£., and the latter of 15,478£. The value of the exports and imports by sea from or to each port in the Colony is given in the following table:—

Z.

Port.	Exports.	Imports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
Albany - - -	—	86	86
Brisbane - - -	773,834	1,838,283	2,612,117
Cleveland Bay - - -	29,266	29,848	59,114
Hinchinbrook - - -	—	1,812	1,812
Maryborough - - -	91,808	84,420	176,228
Pioneer River - - -	14,065	2,326	16,391
Port Curtis - - -	62,056	18,465	80,521
Port Denison - - -	42,437	78,208	120,645
Rockhampton - - -	348,745	413,880	762,625
St. Lawrence - - -	4,280	579	4,859
Total - - -	1,366,491	2,467,907	3,834,398

OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

91

QUEENS-
LAND.

The following return of sheep which have crossed the frontier of Queensland on their way to other colonies during the year 1866 did not reach me in time to be placed in its proper place among the tables printed in the register :—

From the District of Warwick	-	-	-	41,770
Ditto Ditto Moonie	-	-	-	59,766
Ditto Ditto Warrego	-	-	-	54,200
Ditto Ditto Paroo	-	-	-	17,080
Ditto Ditto Goondiwindi	-	-	-	183,050
Total	-	-	-	355,866

The frontier inspector, by whom the above was compiled, states that the returns from Goondiwindi are imperfect, and that he believes 400,000 would be nearer the total number of sheep exported across the frontier during the year 1866. Taking the return as it stands, and valuing the sheep at the low average, for the year 1866, of nine shillings per head, the sum of 160,139*l.* 14*s.* is produced, and should be added to the Customs returns for the past year, raising the estimated value of the exports during that period from 1,366,491*l.* to 1,526,630*l.*, and also raising the value of exported live stock from 38,948*l.* to 199,087*l.* 14*s.* Many head of cattle are also known to have crossed the frontier, but no account has been kept of their number. It is hoped that in future years more attention will be paid to the collection of these important returns.

Revenue.

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the Year ending 31st December 1866.

Receipts during the Year, including Land Orders received in payment of Land purchased from the Crown.	Expenditure during the Year, including Land Orders negotiated.
£ s. d. 592,968 10 10	£ s. d. 696,828 15 4

The expenditure of the year 1866, charged to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, exceeds the receipts of that year by the sum of 103,860*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*, irrespective of a further expenditure during the year, and charged to the Loan Fund, of 965,346*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

Comparing the above receipts and expenditure with those of the year 1865, the following are the total results :—

	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Balance to Credit* or to Debit† of Revenue.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1865	631,431 17 11	617,996 8 1	* 13,435 9 10
1866	592,968 10 10	696,828 15 4	† 103,860 4 6
Increase* or Diminution† in 1866	† 38,463 7 1	* 78,832 7 3	
Centesimal rate of Increase or Diminution	† 6.09	* 12.75	

The receipts of the year 1866, as given above, appear to be smaller than the receipts of the year 1865 by the sum of 38,463*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*; this diminution is attributable to a large decrease in the land revenue of the past year, and to the receipts of the previous year having been credited with the sum of 21,664*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* as premium on debentures sold during that year, an item which does not appear in the year 1866.

The following table enables an accurate comparison of the two years' receipts to be made :—

QUEENS-
LAND.

RECEIPTS on Account of the QUEENSLAND CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND during each of the Years 1865 and 1866.

Head of Revenue.	1865.			1866.			Increase* or Decrease† in the latter year.	Centesimal Increase* or Decrease.†		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Customs - - - -	195,540	15	1	223,384	13	11	*27,843	18	10	*14'24
Stamp Duty - - -	—			4,225	9	2	*4,225	9	2	—
Gold - - - - -	3,566	13	5	2,987	15	10	†578	17	7	†16'21
Land Revenue - -	323,647	10	3	248,722	0	9	†74,925	9	6	†23'15
Postage - - - -	18,081	16	9	19,570	3	4	*1,488	6	7	*8'23
Commission on Post Office Orders	771	18	10	486	15	6	†285	3	4	†36'96
Licences - - - -	22,044	17	4	22,637	6	6	*592	9	2	*2'68
Fees of Office - -	12,961	7	8	12,587	5	11	†374	1	9	†2'88
Fines and Forfeitures - -	1,894	3	8	2,569	7	6	*675	3	10	*35'64
Rents (exclusive of land) - -	591	12	8	591	13	10	*0	1	2	* —
Harbour Dues and Fees - -	5,195	8	3	6,482	5	0	*1,286	16	9	*24'75
Railway Receipts - -	5,679	3	7	26,504	14	5	*20,825	10	10	*366'70
Civil Service Superannuation Fund	2,759	2	3	2,251	4	3	†507	18	0	†18'37
Electric Telegraph Receipts -	10,064	18	9	10,858	15	7	*793	16	10	*7'88
Premium on Debentures - -	21,664	16	8	—			†21,664	16	8	† —
Miscellaneous Receipts - -	6,967	12	9	9,078	19	4	*2,111	6	7	*30'30
Total - - - -	631,431	17	11	592,968	10	10	†38,463	7	1	†6'09

The above receipts, compared with the mean population of the Colony for each of the years 1865 and 1866, are, for the year 1865, at the rate of 7*l.* 16*s.* 1·1*d.* per head, and, for the year 1866, at the rate of 6*l.* 8*s.* 11·2*d.* per head.

Revenue derived from the Crown Lands of the Colony.

This item of revenue is divisible into two parts; first, the amount realized by the alienation in fee of portions of the said lands, and which, strictly speaking, is not revenue; and, secondly, the amount realized as annual rent, or assessment, for other portions of the said lands, the fee thereof still remaining in the Crown.

The following is a return of the amounts received in payment for land sold by the Crown during each of the first seven years of the Colony's existence, distinguishing cash payments from payments made in land orders:—

Year.	Amount received in Cash.			Amount received in Land Orders.			Total Amount received from the Sale of Crown Lands.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1860	-	45,955	7 5	—			45,955	7 5	
1861	-	68,700	13 3	—			68,700	13 3	
1862	-	59,381	15 0	51,144	17 4		110,526	12 4	
1863	-	40,007	2 3	95,607	15 3		135,614	17 6	
1864	-	57,698	17 11	133,031	3 4		190,730	1 3	
1865	-	59,461	0 0	158,970	9 1		218,431	9 1	
1866	-	29,393	18 7	102,217	5 11		131,611	4 6	

By the above table the year 1866 shows a serious falling off in its receipts derived from the sale of land, especially in that portion of them which were paid in cash. The centesimal rate of decrease in the total amount received in that year is 39·74, and in the cash portion of the receipts is 50·56.

Under the second of the above parts, namely, the one referring to rents and assessments, the receipts during each of the last seven years are given in the following table:—

1860.			1861.			1862.			1863.			1864.			1865.			1866.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
55,617	7	3	64,552	3	6	82,059	6	7	87,821	17	7	90,730	9	5	105,216	1	2	117,110	17	3

A steady annual increase is shown in the above return, the receipts of the year 1866 being rather more than double those of the year 1860.

Revenue derived from Duties collected by the Customs.

The revenue collected by the Customs was last year larger than on any previous year, not, however, to be attributed to a larger importation of dutiable articles, but to a great addition having, during the year, been made to the scale of duties.

The following is a table showing the amount collected by the Customs during each of the last seven years, and the rateable proportion each year's collections bear to the mean population of such year :—

Year.	Mean Population of the Year.	Customs Receipts.			Average per Head of the Mean Population.			Remarks.
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Acts of Queensland Parliament imposing additional Customs Duties.
1860	27,017	59,210	3	7	2	3	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	
1861	31,886	71,678	18	11	2	5	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1862	40,593	96,107	11	8	2	7	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	
1863	53,970	125,199	6	11	2	6	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	
1864	67,181	153,341	19	6	2	5	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 Vict., No. 16, Export tax on Gold.
1865	80,905	195,540	15	1	2	8	4·06	29 Vict., No. 2, increased import duties on Wines and Spirits.
1866	91,973	223,384	13	11	2	8	6·75	30 Vict., No. 9 and No. 15, <i>ad valorem</i> and other import duties.

It is remarkable that, in spite of the great addition made last year to our import duties, the average receipts per head of the mean population should be almost exactly the same as in the previous year, the year's increase in population and in Customs receipts having maintained precisely the same centesimal rate.

It is difficult to estimate correctly the real difference in the Customs receipts attributable to increased taxation, for there can be no question that the imposition of a heavy *ad valorem* duty has materially diminished the estimated value placed by importers on their imports. A calculation founded therefore on the proportion that the Customs duties received during any previous year or years bore to the estimated value of the imports of that year or years is necessarily disturbed in the case of last year, by the different scale of valuation adopted by importers since the passing of the Queensland Acts of Parliament, 30 Victoria, No. 9, and 30 Victoria, No. 15.

Expenditure charged to Consolidated Revenue Fund.

The total expenditure of the year 1866, charged to the above account, exceeds that of the year 1865 by the sum of 78,832*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* This difference is far more than accounted for by the following items, most of them the unavoidable consequences of previous legislation, and others having no previous existence, and not being likely to recur again.

	£	s.	d.
Interest on Debentures in excess of the amount paid in 1865	-	-	53,929 13 1
Payments under Schedule B. in excess of the amount paid in 1865	-	-	7,328 0 9
Interest paid to Union Bank on account of overdrawn account	-	-	10,000 0 0
Expenses attending the issue of Debentures, Treasury Bills and Notes, and salaries and contingencies of Stamp Duty Office	-	-	1,605 19 2
Railway salaries and contingencies in excess of those of 1865	-	-	8,190 13 4
Torres' Straits Mail Service	-	-	25,571 19 10
Amount paid to Relief Camps during the year	-	-	12,949 11 4
„ Charitable Institutions	-	-	17,281 2 11
Total	-	-	£136,856 19 8

Compared with the mean population of each of the years 1865 and 1866, the total expenditure each year, charged to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, is for the year 1865 at the rate of 7*l.* 12*s.* 9·22*d.* per head, and for the year 1866 at the rate of 7*l.* 11*s.* 6·34*d.* per head.

Public Debt.

The total amount of the public debt of the Colony of Queensland was, on the 31st December 1865, 1,135,550*l.* During the year 1866 debentures representing the sum of 718,750*l.* were sold, as well as treasury bills representing the sum of 300,000*l.*

QUEENS-
LAND.

The total debt of the Colony on the 31st December 1866 was 2,150,300*l.* This debt, compared with the mean population of the Colony during that year, is at the rate of 23*l.* 7*s.* 7·12*d.* per head; and the annual interest payable thereon (the debentures bearing six per cent., and the Treasury bills ten per cent. per annum), amounting to 141,018*l.*, is at the rate of 1*l.* 10*s.* 7·98*d.* per head of the mean population of the past year.

The various foregoing calculations, under the general head of Revenue, are based solely on the statement of revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the year 1866, published at pages 129 to 155 inclusive of the register, prepared and compiled by the Auditor-General of the Colony, and presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of his Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. O. DARVALL,
Registrar-General.

SYNOPSIS of the STATISTICS of QUEENSLAND from 1860 to 1866 inclusive.

Year.	Population.			Mar- riages.	Deaths.	Immi- gration.	Emi- gration.	Land Sales.		Number of Acres under Cultivation.	Live Stock.									
	Males.	Females.	Persons.					Births.	Number of Acres.		Amount realised.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.					
								A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.	A.	R.	P.	23,504	432,890	3,166,802	7,147
1859	-	14,940	10,206	25,146				23,587	1	21	37,978	15	3	3,353	1	0	23,504	432,890	3,166,802	7,147
1860	-	17,275	11,612	28,887	1,236	255	478	56,849	1	14½	94,063	3	1	4,440	2	18	28,983	560,196	4,093,381	7,465
1861	-	21,231	13,654	34,885	1,423	320	499	67,873	1	9	106,019	13	5	6,086	0	20½	36,532	637,296	4,553,353	7,066
1862	-	28,177	18,123	46,300	1,702	570	797	62,948	1	38½	108,828	8	6	11,262	0	20	45,805	880,392	5,672,400	7,351
1863	-	37,579	24,061	61,640	2,221	774	1,275	139,814	1	20	210,725	18	5	12,006	2	37	40,678	882,073	5,665,334	12,066
1864	-	45,516	28,520	74,036	2,883	951	1,446	145,799	2	38-8	224,403	15	6	14,414	1	39	51,091	848,346	6,594,966	14,888
1865	-	53,297	34,478	87,775	3,532	1,034	1,733	113,598	0	0	141,325	0	0	24,433	0	27	52,311	919,414	7,278,778	13,961
1866	-	57,288	38,884	96,172	4,126	1,067	2,361													

Year.	Shipping.				Exports of Colonial Produce.				Imports.		Exports.		Gross Revenue, including Special Receipts and Land Orders cancelled.	Gross Expenditure, including Land Orders negotiated.	Loans authorized by Parliament.	Education.		Convictions in the Supreme and Circuit Courts.							
	Inwards.		Outwards.		Wool, value.	Tallow, value.	Hides and Skins, value.	Gold, value.	Cotton, value.	Total Value.	Total Value.	Number of Schools.				Number of Scholars.									
	Ves- sels.	Tonnage.	Ves- sels.	Tonnage.													Crews.								
1860	210	45,736	3,745	183	39,503	3,138	444,188	25,628	£	£	£	£	178,589	8	5	523,477	178,589	8	5	161,503	5	3	62	3,169	30
1861	251	57,377	4,750	234	51,827	4,395	613,074	48,009	—	—	742,023	709,599	238,238	9	1	709,599	238,238	9	1	299,006	5	5	68	4,221	24
1862	330	77,312	6,154	305	71,981	5,554	627,182	50,979	—	—	967,951	793,236	346,431	5	5	793,236	346,431	5	5	418,461	11	11	84	4,925	23
1863	389	104,421	7,948	353	98,844	7,184	776,776	30,716	—	—	1,323,509	888,381	390,823	0	10	888,381	390,823	0	10	512,192	10	2	107	6,175	56
1864	431	129,687	9,265	396	116,702	8,352	1,037,663	32,999	4,186	2,267,954	1,247,054	1,247,054	524,198	17	11	1,247,054	524,198	17	11	572,066	1	10	129	7,260	61
1865	497	173,227	12,294	488	167,153	11,791	885,299	57,155	12,197	2,505,559	1,153,464	1,153,464	674,429	18	10	1,153,464	674,429	18	10	617,996	8	1	*101	5,689	99
1866	569	197,665	13,773	556	195,991	13,567	987,659	53,597	19,618	2,467,907	1,366,491	1,366,491	617,673	8	11	1,366,491	617,673	8	11	696,828	15	4	*129	6,738	132

* The Returns of Schools for the years 1865 and 1866 are exclusive of Sunday schools under the supervision of ministers of religion, no information having been supplied.

TABLE exhibiting the ANNUAL INCREASE per Cent. in the Years 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, and 1866, and the TOTAL INCREASE per Cent. in the PERIOD of Six Years.

	Population.			Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Immig-ration.	Emi-grants.	Land Sales.		Number of Acres under Cultiva-tion.	Live Stock.			
	Males.	Females.	Persons.						Number of Acres.	Amount realised.		Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Increase per cent. in 1861	22.90	17.59	20.73	15.29	25.49	4.39	—	—	141.02	147.67	32.42	23.31	29.41	29.26	4.45
Increase per cent. in 1862	32.72	32.73	32.72	19.61	78.13	59.72	98.32	35.27	19.39	12.71	37.29	26.05	13.76	11.24	5.65
Increase per cent. in 1863	33.37	32.76	33.13	30.49	35.79	59.97	42.43	53.62	7.26	2.65	85.05	25.38	38.14	24.58	4.03
Increase per cent. in 1864	21.14	18.53	20.11	29.81	22.87	21.25	5.23	60.86	122.11	93.63	6.61	12.60	0.19	0.12	64.14
Increase per cent. in 1865	17.09	20.89	18.55	20.71	8.73	18.53	34.37	79.93	4.28	6.49	20.05	25.59	0.65	20.20	23.38
Increase per cent. in 1866	7.49	12.78	9.57	16.82	0.65	36.24	39.45	11.57	22.09	37.02	69.51	2.57	8.38	10.37	6.23
Increase per cent. in } six years - }	283.44	280.99	282.45	233.82	318.43	393.93	165.28	439.36	381.61	272.12	628.69	122.56	112.39	129.85	95.34

	Shipping.						Exports of Colonial Produce.			Imports.	Exports.	Gross Revenue.	Gross Expendi-ture.	Education.					
	Inwards.			Outwards.			Wool, value.	Tallow, value.	Hides and Skins, value.					Board of General Education.	Number of				
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.								Schools.	Number of				
Increase per cent. in 1861	19.52	25.45	26.84	27.87	31.20	40.06	38.02	87.33	41.37	30.45	35.55	33.40	85.14	9.68	33.20				
Increase per cent. in 1862	31.47	34.74	29.56	30.34	38.89	26.37	2.30	6.15	14.24	36.73	11.79	45.41	43.29	23.53	16.68				
Increase per cent. in 1863	17.88	35.06	29.15	15.74	37.32	24.10	23.85	65.91	7.51	29.45	11.99	12.81	22.35	27.38	25.38				
Increase per cent. in 1864	10.80	24.20	16.57	12.18	18.07	16.26	33.58	7.43	7.67	32.38	40.37	34.13	11.69	20.56	17.57				
Increase per cent. in 1865	15.31	33.57	32.69	23.23	43.23	41.17	26.49	73.14	108.83	10.47	7.50	28.66	8.03	21.71	21.64				
Increase per cent. in 1866	14.49	14.11	12.03	13.93	17.25	15.06	11.56	6.23	13.30	1.50	18.46	8.42	12.75	27.72	18.44				
Increase per cent. in } the six years - }	170.95	332.18	267.77	203.82	396.14	332.35	122.35	109.13	93.58	232.59	161.04	245.86	330.23	108.06	112.62				

VICTORIA.

No. 17.

(Not received.)

VICTORIA.

No. 17.

TASMANIA.

No. 18.

TASMANIA.

No. 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR T. GORE BROWNE, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 28.)

My LORD DUKE,

Government House, Hobarton, Tasmania,

September 19, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of the statistics of Tasmania, supplied in place of a Blue Book for the year 1866.

These returns have been prepared with great care, and contain more information than has heretofore been published in previous papers of a similar description.

Your Grace will observe that during the ten years ending in 1866 emigration has been in excess of immigration, which has been caused by the attraction of the gold fields in the neighbouring colonies. Notwithstanding this decrease the population has increased during the ten years by 15,368, and by 2,167 or 2·28 per cent. during the year 1866. It was estimated at 97,368 on 31st December 1866.

Exports and imports have declined gradually during the ten years ending in 1866. In 1857 they were 16*l.* 4*s.* 0½*d.* and 15*l.* 4*s.* 0½*d.* per head, and in 1866 they had fallen to 8*l.* 11*s.* 5¼*d.* and 9*l.* 13*s.* 6¼*d.*

The debt of the Colony amounted to 553,280*l.* on 31st December 1866, being considerably less in proportion to the population than that of any of the neighbouring colonies except South Australia.

Of the public revenue I need only observe that it amounted in 1866 to (in round numbers) 240,800*l.*, and that I have every hope that it will in future be equal to, if not in excess of the ordinary expenditure.

Your Grace will observe that penal establishments are maintained at a cost of 24,362*l.*, and charitable establishments at 29,161*l.*, together amounting to 53,500*l.*

The return of agricultural produce is not, I regret to say, as good as it ought to be, for which the statistician assigns various and sufficient, if not satisfactory, reasons. Live stock have slightly increased during the ten years, the alteration in any one year having been unimportant. The wool produced in Tasmania has for some time brought a good price in the English market, and still continues to do so.

Serious crime has decreased rapidly during the last few years. In 1859 twelve persons were executed, in 1864 one, in 1865 two, and in 1866 none; this must doubtless be attributed to the decrease by death and emigration of the original convict population.

The report of the Board of Education which I attach to these papers is satisfactory, and I have no hesitation in saying that the scheme of education in this Colony is well fitted to spread sound education through all classes of the community. The plan of giving exhibitions which give admission to superior schools to young boys, of conferring the degree of Associate of Arts on more advanced students, and finally of providing for the maintenance of two young men annually at the English University, after they have proved themselves duly qualified, has raised the standard of education throughout the Colony, and has prevented the gradual decline which must have followed if that standard had depended only on comparison with others in the same isolated locality.

The vital statistics of Tasmania have always been highly satisfactory, the mean rate for the year being 13·72 per thousand, that of the ten years ending in 1866 having been 16·23 per thousand.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. GORE BROWNE.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c.

&c.

&c.

TASMANIA.

To the Honourable the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

Legislative Council, Hobart Town, July 31, 1867.

Preliminary.

I HAVE the honour to present herewith the statistics of the Colony for the year 1866. My appointment as statistician was not publicly notified until the 22nd January last, and nearly one month of the present year had therefore passed before I was in a position to commence the work. This will account, in some measure, for any imperfections which may be found in regard to the form or matter of the returns, inasmuch as it left me so much less time in which to compile them. On a more leisurely review of the returns on a future occasion, further improvements may very possibly suggest themselves.

On assuming the duties of the new office I found that the statistics of former years had been prepared in so imperfect and inaccurate a manner, and with so little regard to order and method, that it was necessary to recast the whole; and accordingly the first duty was to reconsider every return, both with reference to matter and shape, and to devise new forms where it appeared desirable. This of itself, considering the short time at my disposal, if the returns were to be completed in time for presentation to Parliament, was a most anxious and laborious duty.

In addition to this, a large number of new returns has been added, affording a corresponding amount of information, which I trust may be found useful and instructive. The obtaining of the information necessary for the preparation of these returns, the examination, arranging, and compiling of them when received, and the inauguration of an entirely new system, have occupied the whole of the time not necessarily devoted to my other official duties, and have entailed an amount of physical and mental labour which would scarcely seem credible to those who have never been engaged in a similar work and under similar circumstances; and in consideration of the fact that all this has been done by myself, without any assistance whatever (except in reading some of the proofs, in which Mr. H. M. Hull has been kind enough to lend his aid), and without any actual increase of emolument, I hope to receive at least credit for a considerable share of zeal and public spirit, and to reap such a measure of approval as the exhibition of those qualities may seem to merit.

Objects proposed.

My object throughout has been, primarily, to make the returns practically useful to the Government, the Legislature, and the public generally; and in subordination to that design, to serve the cause of statistical and social science.

For the sake of convenience I shall follow, in the remarks which I may have to make, the order which has been observed in the classification of the Returns themselves.

Population.

I.—Population.

The first four returns are simply reprinted without alteration, and require no comment.

The total population of the Colony on the 31st December, as estimated by adding the increase by births and arrivals, and subtracting the decrease by deaths and departures, was 97,368,—an increase of 2,167, or 2·28 per cent.

Density.

The density of population is, for the whole Colony with its dependent islands, 3·71 to a square mile; or if the islands and lakes be excluded, four persons to a square mile. If, again, the unsettled parts (being 4,832,000 acres) be deducted, leaving 18,665·62 square miles, there will be 5·22 persons to a square mile. “The number of inhabitants to the square mile in Victoria at the date of the census in 1861 was 6·2. There is now, in 1866, an additional unit, or rather more than seven persons to the square mile. In New South Wales, in 1861, there was rather more than one person to each square mile; and in South Australia but four-tenths of a person to each square mile. In England and Wales, according to last census, there were about 344 persons, on the average, to each square mile.”*

Comparison for past ten years.

The following table shows the estimated or ascertained population for the ten years from 1857 to 1866.

Years.		Population.	Years.		Population.
1857	- -	83,612	1862	- -	90,728
1858	- -	84,420	1863	- -	91,519
1859	- -	86,451	1864	- -	93,307
1860	- -	88,053	1865	- -	95,201
1861	- -	90,211	1866	- -	97,368

* Mr. Archer's "Progress of Victoria," p. 14.

It will be seen that during the ten years the number added to the population was 13,756; that is, it had increased at the rate of 16·45 per cent. in the ten years. We cannot, of course, compare this rate with that of Victoria or New South Wales, since the conditions present in a gold-mining and an agricultural and pastoral country are so different as to make comparison useless; but it may be interesting to contrast it with the rate of increase which prevailed during a similar period in South Australia. By the census of March 31, 1855, the number of persons in South Australia was 85,821, and on the 31st December 1865 it was estimated at 156,605,—being an increase, in rather less than eleven years, of 70,784, or 82·48 per cent., or about $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, if distributed equally over that period.

Dividing the ten years given above into two quinquennial periods, we find that in the former the rate of increase was 7·89 per cent., while in the latter it was only 7·32 per cent. Of the rate of increase from births, and of decrease from deaths, I shall have occasion to speak under the head of "Vital Statistics."

The return given on the next page will show how the population was affected during the ten years by immigration and emigration. It will be seen that the number of persons who left the Colony in that period exceeded by 1,557 those who arrived in it. Distinguishing between men, women, and children, we find that the number of men who arrived in the Colony exceeded by 388 those who departed from it; that as regards women, there was a loss to the population of 538; while the loss of children was 1,407. This exodus of women and children seems to have been caused by wives proceeding to join their husbands, who had gone to settle in other countries, and principally in Victoria. The Registrar-General of Victoria, in his essay entitled "The Progress of Victoria," of which he has obligingly furnished me with a copy, remarks that in that Colony "the arrivals of females were in each year uniformly in excess of the departures of females;" and this circumstance tends to strengthen such a supposition. During the previous six years, from 1851 to 1856 inclusive, no less than 10,420 persons were lost to the Colony by emigration, a large proportion being able-bodied men, many of whom have never returned; and in this we shall find one very important cause of the decline of our prosperity.

TASMANIA.

Immigration
and emigra-
tion.

For the last three years the balance of immigration and emigration has been in favour of the Colony, and 690 souls were added to our population from this source last year. Most of these, however, will no doubt appear in the next year among the departures as being visitors from the other colonies, who would return thither in the early part of the present year.

The number of immigrants who arrived in the Colony under the "Bounty System" in 1866 was 53, as against 92 in 1865,—36 of whom were from Ireland, 14 from Scotland, and only 3 from England; 35 being Roman Catholics and 18 Protestants.

DECENNIAL RETURN of Persons who arrived in and departed from the Colony between the years 1857 and 1866.

Year.	ARRIVED.				DEPARTED.				Increase or Decrease by Immigration or Emigration.
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	
1857 -	3,694	1,653	716	6,063	3,165	1,512	554	5,231	+ 832
1858 -	2,335	1,229	439	4,003	2,691	1,254	551	4,496	— 493
1859 -	1,794	916	265	2,975	1,760	783	378	2,921	+ 54
1860 -	1,679	1,141	612	3,432	1,828	807	479*	3,114	+ 318
1861 -	2,320	1,040	324†	3,684	3,206	1,094	561	4,861	—1,177
1862 -	1,979	830	365	3,174	2,718	1,135	591	4,444	—1,270
1863 -	2,403	847	371	3,621	2,409	1,184	817	4,410	— 789
1864 -	2,394	933	384	3,711	1,728	1,122	671	3,521	+ 190
1865 -	2,331	913	353‡	3,597	1,825	1,131	553	3,509	+ 88
1866 -	3,126	1,217	426	4,769	2,337	1,235	507	4,079	+ 690
Totals -	24,055	10,719	4,255	39,029	23,667	11,257	5,662	40,586	

Decrease of Population by Emigration during the Ten Years - 1,557

* The number given under this head in the statistics of 1860 is 379; it is corrected from the Population Return.

† There is a similar error in this case, which is corrected by the Return for the following year.

‡ Given in the statistics of 1865 as 253.

TASMANIA.
Customs
returns.

II.—Trade, Commerce, and Navigation.

The most important returns under this head are those of the Customs Department. The total value of imports for the year was 942,107*l.*, against 762,375*l.* in the preceding year, being an increase of 179,732*l.* The value of the exports was 834,606*l.* against 880,965*l.* in 1865, being a decrease of 46,359*l.* within the year 1866. Adding the imports and exports together, we find that our commerce for last year was represented by the figures 1,776,713*l.*, and in the previous year by 1,643,340*l.*, showing an increase of 133,373*l.* The imports in 1866 exceeded the exports by 107,501*l.*

The commercial relations of Tasmania with other countries in 1866 were as follows :—

		Proportion per Cent. of Total.			
		Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
		£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	-	253,180	344,131	26·87	41·23
Victoria	-	537,878	320,626	57·09	38·42
New South Wales	-	72,844	70,690	7·73	8·47
South Australia	-	—	17,347	—	2·08
Queensland	-	3,932	17,318	0·42	2·07
New Zealand	-	1,485	57,142	0·16	6·85
Mauritius	-	67,278	6,667	7·14	0·80
Guam	-	—	685	—	0·08

The imports in 1866 were at the rate of 9*l.* 13*s.* 6½*d.* per head of the estimated population; the exports at the rate of 8*l.* 11*s.* 5¼*d.* per head. In South Australia, in 1865, we find the rate per head of imports stated to be 16*l.* 6*s.*, and the exports 19*l.* 19*s.* 8¼*d.*

Decennial
results.

The following table shows the declared value of imports and exports, and the rate per head of population of each during the last ten years :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Population.	Rate per Head of						
				Imports.			Exports.			
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
1857	-	1,271,087	1,354,655	83,612	15	4	0½	16	4	0½
1858	-	1,328,612	1,151,609	84,420	15	14	9½	13	12	10
1859	-	1,163,907	1,193,898	86,451	13	9	3¼	13	16	2¼
1860	-	1,068,411	962,170	88,053	12	2	8	10	18	6½
1861	-	953,517	905,463	90,211	10	11	4¾	10	0	1
1862	-	857,423	919,649	90,728	9	9	0	10	2	8½
1863	-	902,940	999,511	91,519	9	17	3¾	10	18	5
1864	-	908,265	975,730	93,307	9	14	8¼	10	9	1¾
1865	-	762,375	880,965	95,201	8	0	2	9	5	8¾
1866	-	942,107	834,606	97,368	9	13	6¼	8	11	5¼

From this table, comparing the first and last years of the period, we find that the imports have, during the ten years, decreased at the rate of 13·84, or nearly 14 per cent., and the exports at the rate of 38·39 per cent. If we divide this period of ten years into two quinquennials, we shall obtain the following result :—

	Average Imports per Annum.	Average Exports per Annum.
First Quinquenniad (1857–61)	£ 1,157,107	£ 1,113,559
Second ditto (1862–6) - -	874,622	922,092
Decrease - -	282,485	191,467

Thus it appears that the average imports during the last five years were less than the average in the first five by 24·41 per cent.; but the average exports were less in the last five than in the first five by only 17·19 per cent. There has been, therefore, a growing tendency in the imports to diminish and the exports to increase in relation one to the other; that is, we are producing more in proportion to what we consume. Putting this in another light, we observe that from 1857 to 1861 there were only two years in which the balance of trade was in our favour; while from 1862 to 1866 there were four years in which the result was favourable in that respect. From all this we gather that although our trade has been dwindling down to a most alarming extent in regard to its magnitude, it stands on a perfectly sound basis, and only requires to be fostered and developed in order to restore the Colony to its former and more than its former prosperity.

The following tables show the declared value of all the principal articles of export which were produced in the Colony during the ten years ending in 1866, and the value of the imports of articles which might have been produced in the Colony in that period. The amount of the imports is probably less than their real value, since there is always a temptation to the unscrupulous trader to escape, if he can, the payment of duty, and, in order to attain that object, to depreciate, in so far as his transactions with the Custom House are concerned, the actual worth of his goods.

TASMANIA.

Exports and
Imports,
1857-66.

EXPORTS.

	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bark - - - -	3,551	1,118	4,756	8,240	2,425	3,348	5,283	7,528	11,570	14,461	62,280
Beef and Salt Provisions	25	90	230	15	1,218	4,622	3,995	7,254	1,074	3,142	21,665
Bran - - - -	15,151	10,712	5,367	4,428	2,920	4,438	3,434	6,237	3,804	3,881	60,372
Butter and Cheese -	2,777	6,702	12,782	6,830	10,739	13,915	20,171	12,628	26,570	22,956	136,070
Carts and Carriages -	7,362	2,785	1,085	2,220	2,395	1,234	2,881	1,370	780	115	22,227
Bread Stuffs - - -	183,631	159,510	197,334	93,472	122,362	88,515	84,723	95,745	31,203	39,987	1,096,482
Oats and Barley - -	158,955	108,265	95,172	108,875	82,852	66,900	50,812	45,441	82,455	59,406	858,633
Hay - - - - -	16,872	10,345	3,765	886	2,696	9,821	10,335	9,245	5,822	4,825	74,612
Hides, Skins, and Leather	11,318	5,417	10,079	9,510	13,796	9,722	9,440	7,891	12,412	12,617	102,202
Hops - - - - -	1,306	1,020	2,550	3,865	4,135	5,000	3,375	4,595	6,695	6,030	38,571
Horses - - - - -	79,745	40,150	52,595	42,065	42,284	46,730	58,520	14,510	27,890	14,441	418,930
Sheep - - - - -	2,760	4,140	2,775	495	6,486	10,485	5,809	4,425	8,575	8,235	54,185
Fruits, Green & Preserved	46,575	74,394	61,990	56,203	50,816	51,838	76,031	108,576	86,452	86,575	699,450
Whale Oil and Bone -	45,441	44,473	63,205	57,080	60,230	59,245	30,179	19,925	24,400	36,475	440,653
Stone - - - - -	11,651	6,495	2,740	5,795	7,895	2,540	6,620	4,560	3,220	2,860	54,376
Timber - - - - -	133,773	109,901	80,972	73,726	55,850	62,231	69,856	81,265	56,698	45,731	770,003
Vegetables - - - -	61,373	50,369	29,586	49,707	32,905	34,842	62,871	44,969	54,189	38,452	459,263
Wool - - - - -	393,646	397,533	467,968	368,192	326,413	366,350	407,844	415,891	381,625	385,405	3,910,867
Seeds, Plants, and Trees	553	1,386	1,667	1,988	1,990	3,027	4,304	4,167	5,106	6,594	30,782
Total - - - -	1,176,465	1,034,805	1,096,618	893,092	830,407	844,803	916,483	896,222	830,540	792,188	9,311,623

In 1863, Bacon to the value of 5,470*l.*; also Cattle, 9,993*l.* In 1864, Cattle, 4,482*l.*, chiefly to New Zealand. In 1866 there were also exported Oysters and Crayfish to the value of 1,095*l.*; also Pigs to the value of 2,328*l.*

IMPORTS.

	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Beef and Provisions -	28,436	15,152	22,016	14,669	14,062	8,026	9,090	8,851	4,314	7,225	131,841
Butter and Cheese -	24,489	8,594	6,669	5,273	1,563	1,572	1,208	1,433	156	965	51,922
Candles and Tallow -	16,880	14,173	12,273	13,288	10,214	8,356	13,010	8,990	6,349	13,042	116,575
Carts and Carriages -	5,953	3,699	5,133	5,273	2,985	514	766	1,405	1,600	1,150	28,478
Coal - - - - -	23,568	23,215	16,561	17,596	13,618	17,287	14,315	8,274	10,332	11,224	155,990
Bread Stuffs - - -	4,808	6,411	6,519	7,542	3,912	618	1,955	34,700	28,004	16,756	111,225
Oats and Barley - -	5,746	3,620	4,120	720	667	3,058	410	640	150	4,377	23,508
Hops - - - - -	6,960	6,933	4,186	2,259	3,549	3,323	6,581	5,605	4,758	5,467	49,621
Cattle - - - - -	72,278	75,733	64,520	60,051	48,692	46,130	40,969	47,760	29,165	14,570	499,859
Sheep - - - - -	42,235	31,625	23,885	40,542	30,807	18,900	17,140	14,470	8,418	15,944	243,966
Malt - - - - -	15,128	10,401	4,768	1,063	5,422	*2,467	3,271	1,338	799	1,613	46,270
Malt Liquor - - -	44,884	39,747	28,828	28,491	21,651	21,021	19,389	15,788	15,694	8,227	243,720
Rope and Twine - -	4,369	4,164	3,440	4,920	3,201	4,304	7,120	7,075	4,027	4,017	46,637
Soap - - - - -	8,919	2,954	5,035	10,874	3,994	4,963	1,887	2,452	1,383	758	43,219
Chicory - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	683	783	1,920	1,083	1,249	5,718
Hides, Skins, & Leather	1,106	3,620	6,066	4,552	2,766	3,506	3,327	3,787	3,310	5,213	37,253
Total - - - -	305,759	250,041	214,019	217,113	167,103	144,728	141,212	164,488	119,542	111,797	1,835,802

* There are errors in the Returns for both Ports for this year which are here corrected.

As regards the exports, we find that that of bark has largely increased. Bran has, on the other hand, largely decreased, the value in 1857 being 15,151*l.*, in 1866 only 3,881*l.* On beef and salt provisions there is an increase. Butter and cheese also show a large increase, amounting to about 726½ per cent. There is not one of the Australian Colonies that is at all comparable to Tasmania in regard to the conditions favourable to dairy farming; and there is, therefore, an unlimited market open to us for all produce of

TASMANIA.

this kind. The refuse milk and curd might be used in feeding pigs, for which, I am informed, there is a large demand in Melbourne. There is a wide field in this direction for the exercise of enterprise, with little or no necessity for the outlay of capital; and the small farmer could not, probably, easily find any object to which he might more profitably turn his attention than this. The export of breadstuffs shows, on the other hand, a very large diminution,—no less than 78 per cent. Oats and barley also show a decrease, having declined to the extent of about $62\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The exports of hay have also fallen to about one-quarter of what they were ten years ago. If this had been accompanied by a corresponding growth of root crops, it would have been a matter for congratulation, as indicating the commencement of a better system of farming; but a reference to the quantity of land under this description of crop proves that such was not the case, at least to any appreciable extent. As regards horses, whale oil and bone, stone, timber, vegetables, and carts and carriages, there has also been a large decrease. Hides, skins, and leather, and wool, show a small increase; hops, fruit (green and preserved), jam, and seeds, plants, and trees, on the contrary, a large increment. Sheep are among the latter class, but a considerable proportion has been sent to New Zealand, I believe, to stock stations there belonging to residents in this Colony; and therefore, as far as such proportion is concerned, they can hardly be considered exports in the ordinary course of trade. The value of all the articles enumerated in this table in 1857 was 1,176,465*l.*, and in 1866 only 792,188*l.*, the difference amounting to 32·66 per cent.

The value of all the imports in the above table is 1,835,802*l.*; and a comparison between the first and last years of the decade shows a falling off of 63·43 per cent. The decrease affects all the articles, except breadstuffs, rope, and twine (taking the first and last five years for comparison), chicory, and hides, skins, and leather. As regards the last item, we have seen that the exports have increased, and the imports also show an increase. This is to be accounted for by the fact that a large quantity of kangaroo leather is sent out of the Colony to other markets where (particularly in England) it is in great request; and leather of foreign manufacture has, I presume, taken its place for home use. The leather trade seems, therefore, to be in a healthy condition.

I have included chicory in the table of imports not because it holds, at present, any important place, considered in reference to the amount, but because I wished to direct attention to the question of its production. It is but a few years since it came into use in these Colonies; and as the demand will probably increase, it is worth while considering whether it might not be grown here for the supply of our own and the Australian markets. It is with the same view that I call attention to the imports of rope and twine.* Besides our own consumption, it will be seen that there is a demand for a large quantity in the other colonies. Such a manufacture would encourage the growth of hemp and flax, and might find employment for a considerable number of our juvenile population.

Among the imports of the Australian Colonies for the year 1865 I find the following:—

	Victoria.	New South Wales.	South Australia.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
Bran - - - - -	29,021	6,742	—	35,763
Beef and Pork - - - - -	2,935	3,645	5,575	12,155
Bacon and Hams - - - - -	48,692	14,394	10,337	73,423
Bread Stuffs - - - - -	921,261	807,289	12,439*	1,740,989
Butter and Cheese - - - - -	111,511	3,564	8,269	123,344
Chicory - - - - -	3,707	6,581	900	11,188
Coal - - - - -	145,881	—	63,004†	208,885
Cordage and Rope - - - - -	33,075	44,435	12,370	89,880
Hops - - - - -	48,179	11,143	14,286	73,608
Live Stock, viz.:—Horses, Horned Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs.	601,855‡	15,094	40,858	657,807
Malt - - - - -	125,721	21,892	14,043	161,656
Malt Liquors - - - - -	340,318	273,846	67,150	681,314
Oats and Barley - - - - -	99,730	451	—	100,181
Timber§ - - - - -	197,870	64,067	136,922	398,859
Vegetables, viz.:—Onions and Potatoes - - - - -	48,270	43,167	30,847	122,284
	2,758,026	1,316,310	417,000	4,491,336

* Oats and Barley are not distinguished from other kinds of Grain.

† Including Coke and other Fuel.

‡ Chiefly from New South Wales.

§ Deals, when so distinguished, are excluded.

* There were, in 1866, only two rope manufactories in the Colony.

TASMANIA.

Confining our attention chiefly to Victoria and New South Wales, as being the nearest, and therefore the most conveniently situated for the purposes of trade, we find that the former imported articles which might be supplied by this Colony to the extent of 2,758,026*l.* in the year; the latter to the extent of 1,316,310*l.* In regard to nearly all these articles, except live stock, it is quite as convenient for Victoria to procure them from this island as from the ports of New South Wales, or, if from Launceston, much more so; and our facilities of trade with her are, therefore, *cæteris paribus*, equal or superior to those of New South Wales. Bacon and hams, breadstuffs, butter and cheese, malt, malt liquors, oats and barley, timber and vegetables, would of themselves, if we could successfully compete with our neighbours in their production, be a copious source of wealth to this Colony. Our commerce is capable of great expansion, if only it be not impeded by mischievous and delusive restrictions on the part of our neighbours or ourselves. It must be acknowledged that the protective policy, which has been growing into favour with certain classes in some of the Colonies, is calculated greatly to retard the development of our resources; but it may be hoped that the arguments of abler political economists, and the warning example of the American States will before long induce those who now cling to this fond but fatal delusion to adopt sounder commercial principles. Among nations, as among individuals, there can be no such thing as independence of others. Each must look to others for the supply of a portion of his wants; and he, in turn, is called upon to reciprocate the advantages which he receives; so that any interruption to the freest interchange of those things which are requisite for our necessities or convenience must be prejudicial as much to the one party as the other. It may be safely predicted that any country which resorts to protection as a fancied means of fostering its native industries will, in the end, thus destroy the very thing which it designs to protect and cherish.

Impediments
to trade and
commerce.

It would seem to be greatly to the advantage of this whole group of Colonies if the inequalities in the customs duties of each of them were so far removed as to permit a freer interchange of commodities among them. Just as in grafting a tree the object of the operator is to fit the stock and scion together so closely that the sap shall flow from one into the other unconscious of any division; so in regard to commerce our design should be, I apprehend, so to equalize the conditions present in each of the Colonies that supply and demand may follow their natural laws and necessities, unchecked by any local causes or arbitrary restraints. An absolutely uniform tariff for the whole group is scarcely to be hoped for, and perhaps, considered in the light of local circumstances, is hardly to be desired; but it seems evident that the nearer we approach such a result, the greater will be our common prosperity. The course of trade may be compared to the blood circulating in the veins and arteries of an animal. Whatever, even in the finest and remotest capillaries, checks the free circulation of the vital fluid produces pain and disease, and until the impediment is removed health cannot be restored.

The Intercolonial Free Trade Bill, which was passed during the last Session of our Parliament, and is now awaiting Her Majesty's pleasure, enunciates, with Legislative authority, the principles which I have attempted to lay down; and will, doubtless, if the other Colonies (or at least the two nearest) can be induced to carry out its provisions, prove of immense advantage in promoting the growth of our trade. It is much to be hoped that this measure may pave the way for the adoption of a more liberal and enlightened commercial policy in the Colonies which may become parties to it, and of a more harmonious action in regard to matters affecting their common interests. The late Intercolonial Exhibition, and others which will, doubtless, be held hereafter, may also be expected to conduce to this result.

Intercolonial
Free Trade
Bill.

The returns of shipping show that during the past year 20 vessels entered inwards from the United Kingdom, 619 from other British Colonies, and 4 from the United States,—together 643 vessels, with a tonnage of 107,903. Compared with the returns of 1865, there is an increase on the total of 3 vessels, and on the tonnage of 7,627. When we examine the corresponding returns for the last ten years, we find that there has been a gradual decrease year by year (taking the first and last years of the period) amounting to 378 vessels, representing 56,105 tons; that is, the number of shipping inwards has decreased by 37 per cent. The decline in our foreign trade, as shown by this return, is very remarkable. In 1857, 23 foreign vessels entered our harbours; in 1865 and 1866, only 3. A comparison of the totals in the first and last five years of the period from 1857 (as shown in the subjoined statement) proves that the average number of vessels in the former was 895 per annum; in the latter, only 720. The returns of shipping outwards do not seem to require particular notice.

Shipping.

DECENNIAL RETURN of SHIPPING entered INWARDS and OUTWARDS from the Year 1857 to 1866.

Year.	Inwards.									Outwards.								
	British.			Foreign.			Total.			British.			Foreign.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1857	998	156,560	11,177	23	7,448	391	1,021	164,008	11,568	1,008	159,385	11,329	24	7,673	415	1,032	167,058	11,744
1858	958	143,749	10,199	15	4,198	262	973	147,947	10,461	972	143,267	10,289	13	3,597	223	985	146,864	10,512
1859	826	118,028	8,642	12	4,084	186	877	129,201	9,363	849	122,397	8,932	8	2,692	142	857	125,089	9,074
1860	802	114,619	8,396	4	1,553	99	806	116,172	8,495	814	116,825	8,496	3	1,418	93	818	118,243	8,589
1861	792	113,969	8,311	8	2,718	173	800	116,687	8,484	792	114,087	8,492	8	2,611	174	800	116,698	8,665
1862	726	104,651	7,409	8	3,013	200	734	107,664	7,609	747	106,218	7,543	7	2,697	181	754	108,915	7,724
1863	765	113,984	7,577	10	3,697	235	775	117,681	7,812	762	113,003	7,460	8	3,140	187	770	116,143	7,647
1864	797	120,449	7,563	10	4,250	228	807	124,699	7,791	785	119,023	7,705	12	4,768	285	797	123,791	7,990
1865	637	99,214	6,638	3	1,062	77	640	100,276	6,715	674	103,156	6,913	3	1,062	77	677	104,218	6,990
1866	643	107,903	7,516	3	1,009	91	643	107,903	7,516	629	105,056	7,420	3	1,009	88	632	106,065	7,503

The number of registered steamers belonging to ports in this Colony appear to show an increase of two iron steamers, with a tonnage of 197. The return of registered vessels generally for the past year has been put into a more convenient form than heretofore, and will be available for future comparison.

Whale fisheries. The return of vessels belonging to this Colony employed in the whale fisheries has been revived, having been discontinued for many years. It will be seen that this branch of Colonial industry employed 9 vessels, with a tonnage of 2,257, and 229 men. The quantity of oil taken was 380 tons, valued at 38,000*l.*, or 100*l.* per ton. I regret that the statistical returns do not afford the means of comparing the extent of our whaling operations for any continuous period; but I find that in 1851 the number of vessels employed was 21; in 1852, 18; and in the following year only 7, the value of the oil and bone in those three years being, respectively, 53,445*l.*, 42,990*l.*, and 26,743*l.*

Coal. I have added a return of the quantity and value of coal raised for sale during the year, which, I believe, will be found interesting. Appraising the coal at its market value, it appears that this commodity added 13,036*l.* to the wealth of the Colony. I see no reason why coal may not become a considerable article of export. It will have been seen that Victoria and South Australia are dependent, to a large extent, on foreign markets for their supply of this description of fuel; and it is a question for the consideration of those interested, whether Tasmania might not advantageously compete with other countries in this direction.

Prices of provisions. On comparing the retail prices of provisions for the two last years, it will be observed that bread is returned as 1*d.* per pound cheaper in the latter, and flour 13*s.* per cwt. cheaper, or 50 per cent. Butter, potatoes, sugar, tobacco were also cheaper; while brandy, candles, cheese, and butcher's meat were dearer.

III.—FINANCE.

General revenue. The receipts of the General Revenue in 1866 (excluding the balance from 1865) were 245,421*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, of which 129,310*l.* 12*s.* were derived from Customs duties, and 47,053*l.* 2*s.* from sources classed as "Inland Revenue." The expenditure was 242,361*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, classed under the following heads:—

	£	s.	d.
Expenditure under general estimates	118,900	8	4
Ditto under local estimates	63,463	2	10
Special disbursements	31,592	12	7
	213,956	3	9
Arrears of former years	28,405	3	9
	242,361	7	6

and fund. The receipts of the Land Fund (excluding the balance, as before) were 88,342*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*, composed of the following sums:—

	£	s.	d.
Sales of Crown Lands	53,067	0	11
Rent of ditto	9,223	4	8
Fees	2,113	1	1
Debentures sold, &c.	23,939	5	0
	88,342	11	8

The expenditure under the several heads was as follows :—

TASMANIA.

	£	s.	d.
Ordinary services - - - - -	42,139	7	4
Debentures redeemed - - - - -	13,900	0	0
New schools, and immigration - - - - -	1,108	1	9
Public Works—Roads, Bridges, &c. - - - - -	46,474	0	2
Arrears of 1865 - - - - -	3,119	9	7
	106,740	18	10

Comparing these results with those of the previous year, there appears to have been an increase of 9,849*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* on the Customs, and 3,643*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* on the Internal Revenue. On the total general expenditure there is apparently an increase of 23,366*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, which seems (to a large extent, at least) to be accounted for by the difference in the mode of adjusting the accounts adopted in the two years.

As regards the land fund there is a falling off on the receipts from the sales of land of 6,311*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*; on those for the rent of land of 170*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; and on fees, &c., of 484*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* The proceeds of debentures, &c., in both years are so nearly equal as not to require any particular notice. The total Expenditure shows a decrease of 27,720*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* upon that of 1865; but, on the other hand, there was brought to account in that year a repayment of 30,500*l.* to the Imperial Government, so that in reality there would be an increase in 1866 of 2,779*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*

The receipts under fixed heads of revenue, for the nine years from 1858 to 1866 inclusive, are shown in the subjoined abstract.

Year.	General Revenue.						Land Revenue.								Total Revenue from both sources									
	Customs.			Inland Revenue.			Total.			Sales of Crown Land.		Rent of Crown Land.		Fees for Surveys, &c.		Total.								
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
1858 -	134,608	0	6	61,226	16	10	195,834	17	4	44,664	7	9	23,854	0	7	5,548	2	0	74,066	10	4	269,901	7	8
1859 -	123,300	19	11	62,987	8	8	186,288	8	7	52,611	14	10	22,153	10	10	3,836	9	6	78,601	15	2	264,890	3	9
1860 -	118,348	15	9	63,265	11	0	181,614	6	9	57,744	7	4	21,041	16	1	3,599	19	7	82,386	3	0	264,000	9	9
1861 -	112,319	2	7	59,600	7	3	171,919	9	10	58,969	7	2	18,750	9	10	3,175	2	6	80,894	19	6	252,814	9	4
1862 -	130,835	0	9	56,765	4	0	187,600	4	9	48,315	18	2	14,976	11	5	3,131	4	5	66,423	14	0	254,023	18	9
1863 -	135,825	14	11	46,226	9	4	182,052	4	3	52,737	6	6	13,644	11	9	2,139	11	3	68,521	9	6	250,573	13	9
1864 -	127,099	2	1	46,275	9	1	173,374	11	2	77,818	3	1	12,065	6	4	3,331	13	10	93,215	3	3	266,589	14	5
1865 -	119,460	17	3	43,409	8	3	162,870	5	6	59,378	11	1	9,393	12	2	2,400	2	5	71,172	5	8	234,042	11	2
1866 -	129,310	12	0	47,053	2	0	176,363	14	0	53,067	0	11	9,223	4	8	2,135	15	1	64,426	0	8	240,789	14	8

As regards the general revenue, there is a decrease on the nine years (omitting fractions) of 19,471, or 9·94 per cent. The decrease on the customs amounts to 5,297*l.*, or 3·93 per cent.; and on the inland revenue to 14,174*l.*, or 23·15 per cent. Excluding 1858, and dividing the remaining years into two quaternions, it appears that in the latter the customs revenue had increased to the extent of 26,892*l.*, or at an average rate, if spread equally over the four years, of 6,723*l.* per annum. The inland revenue, on the contrary, when treated in the same way, is found to have declined to the extent of 59,654*l.*, or at an average rate of 14,913*l.* per annum.

Referring to the land fund, we find it fluctuates so much as to make any comparison between single years worthless. Confining it, therefore, to the first and last four years of the period from 1859 inclusive, the decrease on the total revenue will be found to be 10,972*l.*, or at the average rate of 2,743*l.* per annum. The further investigation of this decrease, in reference to the separate items, will be more properly treated under the head of "Crown Lands, Agriculture, &c."

The General and Land Revenue, added together and treated as before, shows a decline on the last four years of 43,733*l.*, or 10,933*l.* on an average per annum.

The commissariat expenditure during the year 1866 amounted to 56,460*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

The banking returns show, at the end of the year, a total of assets amounting to 1,255,447*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, against a total of liabilities of 714,685*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*; the balance of assets being 540,761*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* The amount of specie in the banks was 165,412*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, being an excess of 89,406*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* over the value of the notes in circulation.

The statement which follows shows the combined operations of the banks during the last ten years. The assets have decreased at the rate of 37·84 per cent.; the liabilities at the rate of 47·68 per cent. The notes in circulation have declined from 160,230*l.* to 77,769*l.*, or 51·46 per cent.; and the amount deposited from 1,205,654*l.* to 636,916*l.* or 47·17 per cent.

Commissariat.
Banking.

TASMANIA.

Years.	Assets.			Liabilities.		
	Coin and Bullion.	All other Assets.	Totals.	Notes and Bills in circulation.	Deposits, &c.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1857 -	501,211	1,518,662	2,019,873	160,230	1,205,654	1,365,884
1858 -	343,073	1,529,224	1,872,297	144,057	1,051,531	1,195,588
1859 -	270,195	1,633,047	1,903,242	141,314	991,276	1,132,590
1860 -	280,503	1,561,660	1,842,163	134,701	814,315	949,016
1861 -	223,328	1,343,961	1,567,289	117,543	729,085	846,628
1862 -	199,609	1,302,511	1,502,120	104,125	734,169	838,294
1863 -	164,494	1,251,774	1,416,268	104,062	722,846	826,908
1864 -	167,901	1,177,953	1,345,854	94,676	662,270	756,946
1865 -	174,358	1,091,078	1,265,436	90,474	634,022	724,496
1866 -	165,412	1,090,035	1,255,447	77,769	636,916	714,685

Savings banks.

The return in reference to the Savings Banks is now presented for the first time, as is the case with the greater part of the returns which follow. A comparison of the results for the last 10 years does not show any striking variation, and I have, therefore, not deemed it necessary to encumber this report with a return for that period.

The assets at the end of the second half-year (31st August) were 217,352*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, and the liabilities the same. In the first half-year the amount withdrawn at Hobart Town (the information not being supplied for Launceston) exceeded the deposits by 3,278*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*; while in the latter the deposits exceeded the repayments by 2,479*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*

Post office money orders.

Post office money orders were issued in 1866 to the amount 11,274*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, and paid to the amount of 8,669*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* The system was only in operation during the eight latter months of 1865, and in order to compare the progress of the system in the two years it will be necessary to calculate the amount for the whole of 1865, on the supposition that the same law prevailed throughout the year. This will give an increase in 1866 of 1,255 in the number of orders issued, and of 5,294*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* in the amount represented, being at the rate of 88½ per cent. upon the latter. A considerable part of this increase is attributable to the fact that during 1866 seven additional offices for the issue and payment of money orders were established in country districts. The amount of commission received and credited to the revenue of this Colony was 235*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*

Public debt.

The amount of debentures outstanding on the 31st December 1866, was 553,230*l.*, which is at the rate of 5*l.* 13*s.* 7½*d.* per head of the estimated population on that day. The rate per head of public indebtedness in Victoria, in 1865, was 13*l.* 16*s.* 9½*d.* (excluding 60,000*l.* due to the bank, as not being a permanent debt); in New South Wales, 11*l.* 10*s.* 10¾*d.*; and in South Australia, 5*l.* 1*s.* 8¼*d.* In comparing the relative indebtedness of different countries, however, it is necessary that we should take into account the objects for which it was incurred, since it is evident that the amount of debt, as well in the case of nations as in that of individuals, may be taken as a measure either of adversity or prosperity, in proportion as it is incurred to make up current deficiencies of revenue, or for the improvement of the estate, public or private, as the case may be.

Taxes, duties, &c.

The schedule of taxes, duties, and other sources of public revenue, which now appears among the statistical returns for the first time, will, I doubt not, be found very useful for purposes of reference. It is not as yet altogether complete, and probably there may be omissions of which I am at present unaware; but I trust in time to render it more perfect.

Public works.

The statements of public works executed during the year will probably obviate the necessity for Parliamentary Returns in reference to that subject.

IV.—ESTABLISHMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS MAINTAINED OR ASSISTED BY GOVERNMENT.

Object of classification.

It seemed to me that practical convenience would be better consulted by placing all these returns together under one head than by distributing them through the volume according to a more philosophic, but artificial, classification.

Post office.

At the head of these returns stands the Post Office. Since 1858 the number of post offices and receiving houses has increased from 95 to 121; the number of miles of post roads from 873 to 1,073; the number of letters received from 347,889 to 433,446; the

number sent from 314,812 to 380,211; the number of town and district letters (not included in the foregoing) from 62,029 to 96,757. The number of newspapers received has decreased from 401,770 to 326,392 (though in 1863 it fell to 305,314); the number despatched has also decreased from 874,998 to 775,277. The smallest number of newspapers despatched was in 1861, when it was only 596,844. The post office revenue during the last 10 years shows but little fluctuation, although in the last two years it has somewhat increased; while the expenditure has sensibly decreased, the average for the first five years of the period being 16,052*l.* per annum, and for the last 14,317*l.* The charge against the revenue on account of the post office is, therefore, every year becoming less.

The returns relating to the several penal and charitable establishments will, I venture to hope, be found of great use. The distribution of the liability of maintenance between the two Governments must, probably, be regarded rather as an approximation to the respective amounts than as an exact and final result, inasmuch as it has been arrived at (except in the case of Port Arthur) in anticipation of the settlement of the accounts between those Governments, and may therefore be somewhat modified when that settlement has been effected.

Penal and
charitable
institutions.

The expense of the penal and charitable establishments (so far as they can be thus distinguished) to the Imperial and Colonial Governments, respectively, may be summarised as follows:—

	Chargeable to	
	Imperial Government.	Colonial Government.
PENAL.		
Port Arthur - - -	£ 13,004 13 0	£ 12,873 11 11
Gaol for Males, Hobart Town -	216 1 9	4,797 11 4
Gaol for Females, ditto -	387 8 4	2,755 7 6½
Gaol, Launceston - - -	33 15 7½	3,935 11 5½
	13,641 18 8½	24,362 2 3
CHARITABLE.		
General Hospital, Hobart Town	472 3 2½	6,703 17 8½
Ditto, Launceston* -	745 17 4¾	2,593 11 11¼
Lunatic Asylum, New Norfolk	1,607 9 0	5,695 18 10
Hospital, Campbell Town -	—	272 10 0
Queen's Asylum - - -	3,298 12 0½	8,255 7 10½
Brickfield's Pauper Establishment	—	3,985 10 2
Reformatory for Females -	—	100 0 0
Benevolent Societies - -	—	1,354 7 4
Ragged Schools - - -	—	200 0 0
	6,124 1 7¾	29,161 3 10
Total - - -	£19,766 0 4¼	£53,523 6 1

* The Surgeon-Superintendent was unable to state what portion of the expenditure was chargeable to the Imperial Government; but from the Report of the Board, which was received afterwards, it appears that 22 patients were wholly or partially so chargeable, the proportion has, therefore, been taken as 22 to 98½.

The cost of these institutions is, therefore, rather more than one-sixth of the whole ordinary expenditure from both the general and land revenues, and it is at the rate of eleven shillings per head for the whole population. It will be interesting to compare this expenditure (so far as it is possible to do so) with that for similar services in the Australian Colonies. What the cost of the penal establishments in South Australia is I have not been able to discover, but that of the charitable institutions for 1865 appears to have been 21,676*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, which is only about one thirty-sixth of the consolidated revenue,—while here the same item forms about one-twelfth, or three times as much. In New South Wales (which like this, was a penal colony) the expenditure for 1865 was, for penal establishments, 53,098*l.*; for charitable institutions, 61,966*l.*, or nearly one thirty-third and one twenty-eighth, respectively, of the consolidated revenue. In Victoria the expenditure for penal establishments for 1866 was estimated to be 82,926*l.*;* the cost of charitable institutions to the Government in 1865 was 66,378*l.*,

* Deducting 2,215*l.* for inspector and clerks, in order to carry the same principle throughout the comparison.

TASMANIA. or about one forty-second and one fifty-second part, respectively, of the consolidated expenditure for the latter year.*

There can be no question that the greater part (perhaps three-fourths) of the expenditure under these heads in this Colony is due to the presence, in former times, of offenders transported hither by the Imperial Government. As there are still found some who assert that the cessation of transportation was prejudicial to the interests of the community, it may be well to remark that three-fourths of the sum before mentioned represents, at 6 per cent., a capital sum of 669,033*l.*; so that, in effect, for the temporary advantage derived from the employment of compulsory labour, and a considerable Imperial expenditure, we are now permanently burdened with a debt the interest of which at the present time may be said to amount to 40,000*l.*, and is still increasing in proportion to the destitution of the poorer or more vicious classes.

Municipalities, Road Trusts, and Boards of Works.

Under the heads of "Municipalities," "Road Trusts," and "Boards of Works" (the last being entirely a new return), a large amount of information not hitherto supplied has been given. The labour bestowed on the collection, revision, and compilation of these returns has been very great, and I hope that the value of the result may be in proportion to it.

V.—Crown Lands, Agriculture, and Live Stock.

Crownlands sold.

From the second of these returns it will be seen that out of 397, the whole number of country lots of Crown land sold in 1866, 158, or 39·8 per cent., were of and under 50 acres; 120, or 30·23 per cent., were of and under 100 acres; 82, or 20·65 per cent., were of and under 500 acres; and 37, or 9·32 per cent., were above 500 acres. The largest number of lots sold in any one country was in Devon, being 94, as against 56, the next largest, in Dorset.

Decennial results.

The total extent of Crown land sold during 1866 was :—Country lots, 61,368*a.* Or. 3*p.*, as against 90,723*a.* 2*r.* 37*p.* in 1865; town and suburban lots, 922*a.* Or. 1*p.*, as against 1,390*a.* 1*r.* 8*p.* in 1865. The average price per acre obtained for country lands rose from 11*s.* in 1865 to 11*s.* 7½*d.* in 1866; while the average price of town and suburban lands declined from 5*l.* 11*s.* 9½*d.* to 3*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* per acre.

The abstract of the land returns for the last ten years is given below. The country lots sold during the first five years of that period averaged 63,569 acres per annum, and in the latter five years 81,970 acres, being an increase of 18,401 acres per annum, or 28·95 per cent. The town and suburban lots sold, averaged in the first five years 1,814 acres per annum; in the latter five years only 911, being a decrease of 49·78 per cent.

Year.	Country Lots.			Town and Suburban Lots.			Held under Depasturing Licences.		
	Number of Acres sold.	Amount for which sold.	Average Price per Acre.	Number of Acres sold.	Amount for which sold.	Average Price per Acre.	Number of Acres.	Rental.	
		£	£ s. d.		£	£ s. d.		£	
1857	-	7,226	11,197	1 10 11 ³ / ₄	2,167	24,331	11 4 6 ¹ / ₂	1,901,157	25,474
1858	-	45,059	52,833	1 3 5 ¹ / ₄	2,820	20,616	7 6 2 ¹ / ₂	1,778,751	23,854
1859	-	74,598	78,978	1 1 2	2,062	19,609	9 10 4 ¹ / ₄	1,751,051	22,307
1860	-	90,849	107,910	1 3 9	1,172	8,026	6 17 0 ³ / ₄	1,830,017	21,131
1861	-	100,114	100,517	1 0 0 ³ / ₄	848	3,878	4 11 5 ¹ / ₄	2,064,268	19,027
1862	-	39,569	45,400	1 2 11 ¹ / ₄	479	2,428	5 1 4 ¹ / ₂	1,814,291	15,327
1863	-	78,080	59,037	0 15 1 ¹ / ₂	491	5,040	10 5 3 ¹ / ₂	2,187,249	13,907
1864	-	140,108	108,251	0 15 5 ¹ / ₂	1,273	7,546	5 18 6 ¹ / ₂	2,391,953	12,180
1865	-	90,723	49,945	0 11 0	1,390	7,770	5 11 9 ³ / ₈	2,274,799	9,604
1866	-	61,368	35,623	0 11 7 ¹ / ₂	922	3,604	3 18 2	2,251,071	9,303

Rental from Crown lands.

To the ordinary returns relating to Crown lands another has been added showing the number of acres rented, and the amount of rental, from the year 1842 inclusive. This will afford abundant matter for careful and earnest attention. It appears that 1847† was the first year in which we obtained any considerable revenue from the leasing of the lands. We then derived 14,279*l.* from this source, the number of acres being 1,062,989,

* The expenditure (3,490,673*l.*) was obtained from the Registrar-General's data, "Progress of Victoria," p. 60.

† This appears to have been the result of the regulations made in that year (*vide Gazette*, June 15, 1847), by which the minimum rental was fixed at 1*l.* per 100 acres.

TASMANIA.

which gives an average rental of 1*l.* 6*s.* 10¼*d.* per 100 acres. The acreage and rental continued to increase until 1853, when the 2,314,414 acres thus occupied produced a revenue of 29,570*l.*, being at the rate of 1*l.* 5*s.* 6½*d.* per 100 acres. From this point the quantity of land rented has (excluding the islands, which must be viewed in a somewhat different light) continuously been decreasing, with the single exception of the year 1861, when it was slightly augmented; but the amount of rental has, without one exception, been declining from year to year until the present time. In 1866 we find the acreage had dwindled down to 1,369,771, and the rental to 8,564*l.*, which is at the rate of only 12*s.* 6*d.* per 100 acres. This result is, of course, partly attributable to the fact that a considerable proportion of the best lands has been sold, and the remainder available for rental is not so valuable as in former years; but making all due allowance for this cause, the declension of this portion of the land revenue from 29,570*l.* to 8,564*l.* in a period of 13 years induces the belief that the land systems of 1847 and 1851 were better than those by which they have been superseded. If the Crown lands can be made to yield a considerable permanent revenue, it is evident that relief might be afforded to that extent from taxation; and thus more capital would be available for the development of our resources. But in order to bring about such a result it would be necessary to make the tenure of land rented from the Crown more secure, and thus to encourage the lessees to make improvements. Such improvements would enhance the value of the public estate, and it might be worth consideration whether drainage, irrigation, and other similar works, as regards unalienated lands (as, for instance, in the lake country), might not be executed by the Government, the interest of the amount expended being charged to the lessees (supposing them to agree to the arrangement) in proportion to the quantity of land occupied by them.

Subjoined is a synopsis of the returns, for the last ten years, of the number of acres of land under cultivation and in crop, and the number of acres of new land broken up during each year. Agricultural
decennial
results.

Year.	Number of Acres in Crop.	Number of Acres in Cultivation not included in the foregoing.	Total Number of Acres in a State of Cultivation.	Number of Acres of new Land broken up during the Year.
1857 -	134,277*	71,843*	206,120*	—
1858 -	147,455	82,034	229,489	—
1859 -	140,635	67,984	208,619	7,293
1860 -	152,860	65,455	218,315	7,775
1861 -	163,385	84,499	247,884†	7,394
1862 -	157,541	95,509	253,050	6,787
1863 -	170,601	96,572	267,173	7,793
1864 -	158,544	92,292	250,836	5,807
1865 -	159,547	90,839	250,386	8,182
1866 -	167,866	111,156	279,022	7,908

* These numbers are taken from the comparative statement for the following year, which differ from those of 1857, and may be presumed to be more correct.

† There appears to be an error in the returns for this year. The addition is here corrected.

In the last five years as compared with the first five, the number of acres in crop appears to have increased at the rate of 10·22 per cent.; the number of acres in a state of cultivation, but not in crop, at the rate of 30·81 per cent.; and the total acreage under both the preceding classes at the rate of 17·11 per cent.

The number of acres under each description of crop is given on the next page, a few items, such as beans, tares, &c., being omitted, as bearing but a small proportion to the other crops.

The ratio borne by each description of produce to the total acreage in crop is:— Ratios of
crops.
Wheat, 42·5 per cent.; barley, 2·74; oats, 13·5; peas, 2·17; potatoes, 6·26; English grasses (for seed), 3·21; hay, 20·1; root crops, only 1·56; tobacco, 0·128.

In Victoria (1865-6) the ratios were:—Wheat, 34 per cent.; oats, 19; barley, 1·3; potatoes, 6; hay, 18; green forage, 10½.

In Great Britain, in the same period, the ratios were:—Corn crops (including rye, beans, and peas), 32·4; green crops (including potatoes, turnips, mangolds, carrots, cabbage, kohl-rabi, rape, vetches, lucerne, &c.), 12·4; clover and artificial and other grasses under rotation, 12·9; permanent pasture, meadow, or grass not broken up in rotation (exclusive of hill pastures), 38·9. Adopting as nearly as circumstances will admit the same classification here, we shall obtain from the returns for 1866 the following ratios:—Corn crops, 68·5; green crops, 8·1; grass and hay, 23·4. It will be seen that the quantity of land under corn here is more than double that in Britain, while the land

TASMANIA. in green crops is very much less. Such a state of things shows an urgent need of agricultural reform.

Nature of crops for decennial period.

Years.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Peas.	Potatoes.	English Grasses.	Hay.	Crops, not including Onions.	Tobacco.
1857	63,357	11,735	31,940	854	7,804	11,960	—	5,443	—
1858	50,463	10,850	47,729	1,050	8,147	8,913	41,104	2,697	97
1859	60,314	7,566	36,209	1,029	7,777	4,505	29,395	2,693	86
1860	66,450	6,238	30,303	1,047	7,621	6,125	31,837	2,760	78
1861	58,823	7,279	29,022	1,649	9,349	5,184	31,803	2,595	89
1862	60,826	9,470	31,153	1,912	9,722	5,447	35,257	2,758	152
1863	54,028	9,940	40,226	2,153	9,871	7,223	41,438	4,402	232
1864	60,186	6,320	40,987	2,891	8,438	4,162	30,992	3,032	127
1865	73,270	4,527	28,538	3,146	10,270	5,228	30,244	3,141	156
1866	71,348	4,596	34,358	3,655	10,520	5,393	33,762	2,621	216

The growth of wheat is thus shown to have largely increased; oats, peas, potatoes, and tobacco have also increased. The growth of barley has, on the other hand, decreased to a deplorable extent, considering what a wide field there is for its employment in producing malt and malt liquors, both for home consumption and export. I have already referred to this point when speaking of the imports of these articles. English grasses also show a decrease, but this may be partially owing to a change of system in compiling the returns, those for and after 1859 showing only the acreage of grass reserved "for seed," whereas in the two first years it does not appear that any such distinction was made. The growth of hay does not seem to follow any general law. The acreage under root crops (mangolds, turnips, and carrots) shows a slight improvement on the whole: the proportion which this crop bears to the corn crop is almost infinitesimal, —and this one fact is, of itself, a sufficient condemnation of the style of agriculture pursued here.

Change of system necessary.

Before agriculture can ever flourish in this Colony a total change of the present system is necessary. That system may have answered well enough in the times when the soil was new, and the labour of convicts could be had for little more than the cost of their rations. A very moderate return then paid the farmer handsomely. But now, when labourers' wages are high, and farm hands difficult to get, an entirely new style of cultivation is necessary in order to make farming profitable. Instead of scratching up the surface of the ground to a depth of three or four inches; and year after year growing the same crop, without manure, and without fallowing, the soil must be manured and better prepared, a proper rotation of crops observed, and every means taken advantage of which science and observation afford with a view to increase the fertility of the soil and diminish the cost of production. In fact, the whole principle of successful cultivation is contained in this problem,—to obtain a maximum produce at a minimum cost.

Means of effecting it.

The question, then, resolves itself into these two heads:—1. What are the means to be used in order to obtain the largest possible crop from a given quantity of land? and 2. How may the cost of production be brought within the narrowest possible limits?

1. By increasing the produce.

(a.) Choice of crop.

(b.) Economy and choice of manures.

I. To obtain the maximum amount of produce from a given extent of land, we must not only increase to its utmost the fertility of the soil, but take care to cultivate only such crops as are most profitable,* and to select only the most prolific varieties of seed. The most obvious means of fertilisation are, 1. Manures. Of these the ordinary stable dung is one of the most valuable and easy to be procured, the neglect of which is the great defect in our Colonial farming. The object should be by every possible means to increase the supply of this manure. With this view a considerable quantity of land should every year be put into root crops, which should be consumed on the farm, and so returned to the land. An agricultural writer says:—"The supply of manure, and consequently the continued fertility of the soil, depend, to a very large extent, both on the skilful culture of roots and on their economical consumption. The first thing calculated to secure the success of root culture is deep and effective working of the soil. This ought to be attended to in the autumn months, and in all cases a depth of 10 or 12 inches should be aimed at, though at first it is almost impossible to give a furrow so deep

* Among these tobacco seems to be well worth serious attention. There are manufactories in both Melbourne and Sydney ready to purchase the raw material at a remunerative price, which was some time since said to be one shilling a pound. The produce in New South Wales in 1862 averaged 34½ cwts. to the acre.

"as this." Again: "On strong soils home-made manures exercise a mechanical action which is of very great importance; but if we wish a heavy and profitable crop, we must have recourse to those portable manures which are now so extensively used in the best farmed districts, and with these supplement our yard dung as far as may appear to be necessary."* Farm yard dressing, guano,† lime, and bone dust are the manures used here at present, and, if judiciously employed, will probably suffice; but phosphatic guano and bone dust, when applied in their natural state, often disappoint the farmer's expectations, because a large portion of the phosphates which they contain is insoluble, or only parted with by very slow degrees. The defect, however, to a great extent can be removed by mixing them with sulphuric acid, and so converting them into superphosphate of lime. It is the intention of a firm at Launceston, as I have understood, to undertake this branch of manufacture; and in the last Session of Parliament sulphuric acid was, with the object of facilitating the enterprise, exempted from duty on importation. There is no reason why such a manufacture might not also be established in Hobart Town; and if the sulphuric acid were also manufactured in the Colony (which might be done at a very small cost, the process being extremely simple), it would add to our resources another industry, and render the manufacture referred to more profitable. Not only might mangolds be thus generally grown and sent to market in the form of meat, but beet might also be cultivated for the purpose of making sugar. Nitrate of potash, or soda (saltpetre), is a manure which might also be well employed, especially where it could be applied in a liquid state,—that is, in situations where water is abundant.

2. Deep cultivation, fallows, and irrigation. As to the advantages of deep cultivation there can be no question. Every one knows that no good garden can be made without trenching, and it is obvious that the more nearly we can attain this standard in farm cultivation, the more successful will be the result. The object in both cases is to stir up the subsoil and expose it to the influences of light and air, and to permit the roots of the plants to penetrate deeply into the soil in search of their necessary nutriment; but much judgment is, no doubt, necessary in applying the principle. Deep cultivation can be generally effected with horse power, but not nearly so beneficially as with the steam plough.

(c.) Deep cultivation, irrigation, and fallowing.

Where a sufficiency of manures cannot be readily obtained, fallowing is the best substitute, and ought to be constantly employed in such cases, as without it the soil soon becomes worn out and almost useless.

The advantages of irrigation have been so often dwelt upon in this Colony on other occasions that there is no necessity to repeat them here.

The mode of cultivation also greatly influences the amount of produce grown. Wheat, for example, when sown in drills, and kept clear of weeds by hoeing, will yield a very much larger crop and finer grain than when treated in the ordinary way; and by adopting such a system employment might be given to many children who are now brought up in idleness and vice.

(d.) Improved modes of cultivation.

II. The question remains, "How is a given extent of land to be cultivated at the least possible cost?"

2. By diminishing the cost.

Of course, if by improved methods of cultivation, by growing only the most profitable crops, and by selecting the most prolific varieties, we make one acre produce as much as two, we diminish the cost of production in proportion. But it is chiefly by adopting every possible expedient available for the purpose of saving manual labour, and performing the largest amount of work in a given time, that the cost of production is to be diminished. South Australia would never have occupied the position she does as a grain-growing country had she not so extensively availed herself of mechanical appliances.‡ Steam cultivation is now being introduced into Victoria, and must soon, so far at least as the wealthier agriculturists are concerned, supersede slower and less efficient means; and unless the large landed proprietors and tenants here follow their example, they must be left far behind in the race of progress. Steam, in this age, has become a necessity; and in these Colonies, where the rate of wages is so high, and labour not always obtainable,§ there is no way of compensating for these disadvantages except by employing machinery,

(a.) Use of mechanical appliances.

(b.) Steam.

* Morton's "Resources of Estates," pp. 599-601.

† It does not seem to be generally understood that Peruvian or ammoniacal guano is suitable for green crops, phosphatic guano and bone dust for grain and root crops. The one cannot be interchanged with the other, though both may be used together with advantage.

‡ The number of acres of wheat in South Australia in 1865-6 reaped by machine was 356,912, while the number reaped by hand was only 52,949.

§ It will be remembered that last harvest, in several districts in the Australian Colonies, it was stated in the public journals that a portion of the crops had to be left to rot on the ground in consequence of the impossibility of getting hands to gather it in.

TASMANIA.

the best and cheapest motive power for which is steam. It is found in England that steam cultivation can be profitably carried on even where the extent of land does not exceed 200 acres.

Advantage
of steam over
horse power.

As to the relative advantages of steam and horse power, the following extracts from the writings of a practical English agriculturist, Mr. Alderman Mechi, will be sufficient for my present purpose :—“ Horse-power is at least from 50 to 100 per cent. dearer than steam, where the latter can be brought to bear. If manufacturers were asked even to make the comparison, they would ridicule the idea, and tell you that but for steam you could be neither clothed, housed, nor fed. What a manufacturer wants and uses is ‘power’—cheap, untiring power; and is this not exactly what the agricultural cultivator requires?” “ Take an Atlantic steamer that steams unceasingly night and day, and suppose her power to be 1,000 steam horses: you would require 6,000 real horses to do the work! To imagine what space so many animals would require, their food, water, attendants, bedding, harness, and shoeing, seems an impossible absurdity; and yet, practically, when a farmer uses a horse where he might use steam he is in an equally ludicrous and unprofitable embarrassment.” Again: “ There were now two great questions before the agricultural world. First, the introduction of steam to cultivation. He hoped that for all general purposes, as thrashing, grinding, and so forth, most farmers used the steam engine. And his hearers might depend upon it that they would never develop the full powers of agriculture until they brought steam to bear on cultivation. Their five inches of cultivation would be exchanged for two feet or three feet: he said that very guardedly.”* Speaking of steam cultivation in the Colonies, a correspondent of “ The Australasian ” of March 30th says :—“ The cost of the machinery is borne in Britain by the farmers joining together in the various districts, by companies which supply machines, or by the large owners of land starting them for the benefit of their tenantry. The first is, however, the more usual method of introducing the steam plough. In a Scotch journal now before me I find a meeting of a farmers’ association for steam ploughing reported. * * It would appear that their capital is 1,000l. * * In this Colony the farmers might subscribe the money for the machinery in various districts; but as they are often very poor, I think if the Government were to advance them a certain part of the price of the machinery, to be paid back in a certain number of years, it would be an advantage to the country generally.” Perhaps, if the question were entertained by the Government at all, it might be worth consideration whether prizes might not rather be offered for the successful establishment of steam cultivation, instead of the plan above suggested.

The late trial, imperfect as it was, of the steam plough and cultivator in Melbourne appears to have established the fact that, even with the present amount of experience in the working of the apparatus, about seven acres can be ploughed and nine cultivated per diem at a cost of 8s. and 6s. per acre respectively.†

In Europe it is found that steam cultivation involves the necessity of underground drainage, but it remains to be shown by actual experience whether, under the different climatic conditions of these Colonies, the same necessity exists here. Even if this should be the case, however, steam power offers an easy and economical means of performing the work. Probably, where the soil is light and tolerably dry, artificial drainage would not be required; but in heavy tenacious clays it may be assumed to be little less necessary here than in Europe. There drainage, irrigation, and other similar works are often executed by the agency of agricultural improvement companies, and more effectually than by individuals; and the same course might be followed in these Colonies.

If a number of the landholders within a convenient distance would agree to guarantee, for a limited term, a sufficient amount of work, there is every reason to believe that English manufacturing firms would readily undertake to provide and send out the necessary appliances and skilled persons to work them, although it is possible that a further guarantee of a certain rate of interest upon the capital so employed might be required. This, however, ought not to occasion any difficulty, considering the immense superiority of steam cultivation to the common mode.

But there are other subsidiary means of promoting the advancement of agriculture that might be brought into operation with advantage.

Some improvement might be effected in the quality of the labour by ameliorating the moral and intellectual condition of farm servants. This must be done chiefly by the employers of labour. By providing decent and comfortable dwellings for their dependents, by encouraging habits of sobriety and thrift among them, and furnishing

Other means
of improving
agriculture.

(a.) By improving condition of farm servants.

* “ How to Farm Profitably,” pp. 228, 290, 167.

† “ The Australasian,” May 25.

them with the means of instruction and innocent recreation, the masters would probably find their own interests advanced. By these means the country labourers would become more attached to the soil, make better workmen, and would be taught to respect themselves. The establishment of working men's clubs in country districts, where practicable, would be a great assistance towards this end. It would, perhaps, be well for the landed proprietors to offer prizes to be competed for by their *employés* for neatness and cleanliness in their homes.

TASMANIA.

Besides the prizes now given by agricultural societies or associations, others might, I think, with advantage be offered for (1) the largest quantity of manure produced in one year; (2) for the greatest extent of ground under root crops; and (3) for irrigation, and perhaps drainage.

(b.) Prizes by agricultural societies.

An ingenious and successful agriculturist complained to me some time since of the disadvantage under which farmers here are labouring for the want of some means of communicating to each other the result of their experience and observation. Associations or societies might well be formed for this object, at which papers might be read and addresses delivered, and the common stock of knowledge be thus greatly increased.

(c.) Farmers' societies.

The conclusion of the whole matter is this,—that under present circumstances agriculture, to be successful, must be pursued with all the resources of skill and science* as well as capital (at least to a moderate extent), and that unless these be brought to bear upon it, it is in vain to hope that this Colony can ever compete with other countries where a better system is adopted. As new conditions come into existence new means must be employed to meet them.

General conclusion.

I have abstained from making any comparison between the crops produced in the different years, as the returns up to this time have been mere estimates, taken before the produce was gathered in, and are therefore utterly unsafe for statistical purposes. The yield for the last year (1866) will, I am informed, be found to be very much greater than the estimate; and no doubt the same (or the reverse) has often been the case in former years.

Returns of produce.

The following comparative table shows the number of live stock as stated in the official returns for the last ten years:—

Live stock.

Years.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Goats.	Mules.	Asses.	Pigs.
1857	19,857	80,144	1,635,920*	2,633	—	—	34,237
1858	21,563	79,460	1,504,393	2,330	7	9	30,673
1859	20,559	79,950	1,697,199	2,819	3	9	32,008
1860	21,034	83,366	1,700,930	2,888	6	9	31,290
1861	22,128	87,114	1,714,498	3,330	—	7	39,677
1862	20,742	83,143	1,661,225	2,356	6	4	38,491
1863	21,964	90,446	1,800,811	2,276	7	5	41,986
1864	22,090	89,801	1,736,540	2,393	7	6	50,380
1865	22,152	90,020	1,752,719	2,410	8	4	36,624
1866	21,567	88,370	1,722,804	2,486	11	5	33,259

* There is an error in the statistics of this year in regard to the number of sheep in the George Town District. I have adopted the correction made by Mr. Calder in Legislative Council Paper No. 28, 1864, pp. 8 and 15.

The number of horses it appears was, in 1866, nearly the same as it was in 1857, and only four more than in 1858. The average annual number of horned cattle in the first five years was 82,007, and in the latter 88,356; being an increase of 6,349 per annum, or 7.74 per cent. The same process shows that the sheep have, during the last five years, increased on an average at the rate of 83,232 per annum, or 5.04 per cent. on the average number in the preceding quinquenniad. The number of goats seems to have decreased. Pigs have increased (pursuing the same method of comparison) at the rate of 6,571 per annum, or at the rate of 19.57 per cent.; the average number in the two periods being 33,577 and 40,148 respectively.

These results, which are, I believe, contrary to the common impression that our live stock has been decreasing, will show how fallacious it is to compare the numbers in any

* This was accepted as a truth in very early times,—

"Pater ipse colendi
Haud facilem esse viam voluit; primusque per artem
Movit agros, curis acuens mortalia corda,
Nec torpere gravi passus sua regna veterno."

Virgil, Georg. I., 121-4.

TASMANIA. — two single years together. In order to deduce the general law of increase or decrease, it is necessary to extend the comparison over a series of years. As regards sheep, the increase has doubtless been kept down by the ravages of fluke, especially in the lake country and in many other wet, undrained localities; and as regards cattle, one reason why they have not more rapidly multiplied may probably be gathered from the large increase in the exports of butter and cheese, it being a frequent practice with dairy farmers to kill the calves as soon as they are born in order to save the milk which would be required for rearing them.

VI.—Law, Crime, &c.

Trials before
Supreme
Court.

The number of persons tried before the Supreme Court in 1866 was 165 (being 10 less than in the preceding year), of whom 127 were convicted, and 38 acquitted. The number tried before the Recorder's Court, Launceston, was 35 (being six more than in the preceding year), of whom 28 were convicted, and seven acquitted.

The criminal business of the Superior Courts of the Colony for the last 10 years is exhibited below.

Years.	Supreme Court.			Courts of Quarter Sessions.			Recorder's Court, Launceston.			Total Con- victions.
	Felonies.	Misde- meanors.	Totals.	Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Totals.	Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Totals.	
1857 -	61	21	82	22	58	80	—	—	—	162
1858 -	113	37	150*	6	22	28	—	—	—	178
1859 -	121	29	150	—	—	—	12	22	34	184
1860 -	97	43	140	—	—	—	9	19	28	168
1861 -	77	20	97	—	—	—	11	19	30	127
1862 -	81	24	105	—	—	—	7	30	37	142
1863 -	75	16	91	—	—	—	7	24	31	122
1864 -	102	17	119	—	—	—	18†	5	23	142
1865 -	113	20	133	—	—	—	3	18	21	154
1866 -	109	18	127	—	—	—	—	—	28‡	155

* In this year the jurisdiction of the Court of Quarter Sessions was transferred to the Supreme Court.

† This appears in the statistics for the year as 8 only; is corrected from the addition.

‡ The total only can be given, a different classification having been adopted for this year.

The total number of persons convicted has diminished considerably. For the purpose of more ready comparison it will be convenient to give the proportions in a tabular form:—

Years.	Proportion to Total Population.	Proportion per 1,000 of Population.	Years.	Proportion to Total Population.	Proportion per 1,000 of Population.
1857 -	1 in 516	1·937	1862 -	1 in 639	1·565
1858 -	1 in 474	2·108	1863 -	1 in 750	1·333
1859 -	1 in 470	2·128	1864 -	1 in 657	1·522
1860 -	1 in 524	1·908	1865 -	1 in 618	1·617
1861 -	1 in 710	1·408	1866 -	1 in 682	1·592

In 1857 one in every 516 persons was convicted before the Superior Courts, and in 1859 one in 470; while in 1863 only one in 750, and in 1866 one in 682, was so convicted. This result shows that serious offences at least are decreasing. Of minor offences dealt with by the magistrates, there are no records in the statistics of former years, and I am afraid it will still be difficult, if not impossible, to obtain complete and accurate returns.

The number of persons committed for trial in 1866 was 238, being one in 409, or 2·444 per 1,000 of the total population. In South Australia in 1865 I find that the ratio of commitments to population was one in 567, and in the previous year one in 767 (the mean of seven years being one in 595); or, in 1866, 1·705 per 1,000, in 1865, 1·308,—the mean being 1·729. The comparison, therefore (considering that South Australia has never been a penal settlement), is not unfavourable to this Colony.

Executions.

During the last year there was not a single criminal executed. This is the first time, probably, in the history of this Colony that such has been the case, and the fact is, therefore, worthy of special mention. I may also observe that for the last 13 years at least the whole of the criminals executed were either convicts or persons who had been convicts; not one "free" person being among the number.

The executions for the last 10 years were as under :—

TASMANIA.

Years.	Persons executed.	Years.	Persons executed.
1857 - -	9	1862 - -	3
1858 - -	5	1863 - -	2
1859 - -	12	1864 - -	1
1860 - -	6	1865 - -	2
1861 - -	4	1866 - -	—

The civil business of the Courts for the past decade is exhibited in the following Litigation. synopsis. It will be seen to have very considerably diminished.

Year.	Civil Cases tried in the Supreme Court.	Courts of Requests.			
		Summonses issued.	Actions tried.	Fieri Facias.	Capias ad satisfaciendum.
1857 - -	52	1,277	963	381	83
1858 - -	34	1,652	1,182	519	152
1859 - -	42	1,304	902	549	10
1860 - -	28	1,854	1,031	567	19
1861 - -	28	818	484	254	5
1862 - -	25	1,277	703	380	9
1863 - -	23	443*	205*	129*	4
1864 - -	24	924	— †	329	7
1865 - -	23	1,228	395	363	3
1866 - -	26	997	451	321	6

* These numbers are so much below the others that some error may be suspected.

† Not given for this year.

The following is an abstract of the returns relating to insolvencies during the same period. It will be seen that during the last five years the number has greatly decreased, proving what I have before inferred,—that if our trade is more contracted now than formerly, it stands at least on a sounder basis. Insolventcies

Year.	Persons who have been declared insolvent by their Creditors.			Persons who have declared themselves insolvent.		
	Number of Persons.	Amount of Scheduled Assets.	Amount of Scheduled Liabilities.	Number of Persons.	Amount of Scheduled Assets.	Amount of Scheduled Liabilities.
		£	£		£	£
1857 - -	2	16,325	14,705	148	39,637	83,256
1858 - -	8	50‡	1,500‡	146	44,163	130,195
1859 - -	10	—	—	131	91,619	130,446
1860 - -	12	27,705	30,348	160	38,705	168,141
1861 - -	9	1,812	1,508	146	82,598	172,424
1862 - -	10	33,020	37,965	96	42,023	125,622
1863 - -	4	—	—	61	17,639	40,377
1864 - -	5	12,007	10,463	58	57,212	98,395
1865 - -	6	9,668	17,969	81	33,039	73,530
1866 - -	5	468	1,304	59	23,828	43,689

‡ No Schedules filed at Launceston.

It may be interesting to mention that in 1857 the average amount of each insolvent's liabilities was 6,531*l.*; in 1866, only 380*l.*§

§ CORRIGENDUM.—In this Report, after Table of Insolventcies, for “in 1857 the average amount of each insolvent's liabilities was 6,531*l.*; in 1866, only 380*l.*”—read “in 1857 the average amount, &c. was 653*l.*; in 1866 it was 703*l.*”

The average liabilities for each of the ten years was as follows :—

Year.	Average for each Insolvent.	Year.	Average for each Insolvent.
	£		£
1857 - -	653	1862 - -	1,543
1858 - -	855	1863 - -	621
1859 - -	925	1864 - -	1,728
1860 - -	1,154	1865 - -	1,052
1861 - -	1,130	1866 - -	703

The inference drawn in the text is therefore not sustained.

TASMANIA.
Transactions
under Real
Property
Act.
Mortgages.

As regards the transactions of the Lands' Titles Office, the only matter which seems to require special notice is the increase in the number of mortgages discharged during the year,—namely, eight (more than 50 per cent. over those in 1865), representing 4,561 acres, valued at 7,324*l*. Considering that nearly the whole of this was in the “Country,” as distinguished from the “Towns and Suburbs,” I presume this fact may be taken as indicative of an improved monetary condition of the landed proprietors. The amount of the Assurance Fund at the end of the year 1866 was 1,156*l*.

The whole number and amount of the mortgages on land registered for the 10 years past are as follow :—

Years.	Number.	Amount.	Years.	Number.	Amount.
		£			£
1857 -	276	190,009	1862 -	343	157,596
1858 -	348	231,153	1863 -	234	218,214
1859 -	396	279,854†	1864 -	265	199,383
1860 -	380	236,418	1865 -	274	165,577
1861 -	392	358,676	1866 -	316	156,008

† There is an error in the statistical return for this year, which has been corrected by reference to the Registrar of Deeds.

The amount for 1866 is equal to a liability of 1*l*. 12*s*. 0½*d*. per head for the whole population. In South Australia, in 1865, the rate per head of population was 4*l*. 9*s*. 7¼*d*. ; in Victoria, in the same year, 2*l*. 2*s*. 7*d*. ; and in New South Wales, 1*l*. 10*s*. 9¾*d*.

VII.—Education.

The returns usually furnished by the Board of Education were not received in time to appear in their proper place, and will, therefore, be subjoined as an Appendix ; but with a view to preserve uniformity of system as regards the present and future returns, I have retained the heading.

VII.—Vital Statistics.

Births,
deaths, and
marriages.

During the year 1866 the number of births registered was 2,805 ; the number of deaths, 1,327 (four of which occurred beyond the geographical limits of the island) ; and of marriages, 571.

The proportional numbers for the last 10 years, according to the statistical returns, are given below :—

Year.	Proportion per 1,000 of the Living Population.		
	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
1857 -	38·82	16·96	10·73
1858 -	37·17	18·50	9·23
1859 -	37·52	16·31	8·16
1860 -	36·77	19·86	7·82
1861 -	35·55	16·37	7·95
1862 -	34·70	15·01	7·01
1863 -	32·76	15·49	7·62
1864 -	32·48	15·36	7·48
1865 -	32·23	13·26	6·20
1866 -	28·81	13·63	5·86
Mean for the Ten Years	34·68	16·07	7·80

The Act of Council, 2 Vict. No. 8. sect. 22, provides that the deaths of prisoners of the Crown who are still under sentence shall not be registered. This is a very inconvenient provision, and I would submit that it should be repealed, as being at variance with the practice in other countries, and opposed to the interests of science.

In order to arrive at the true death rate the above table must be corrected as follows :—

TASMANIA.

Year.	Deaths of Prisoners of the Crown.	Executions.	Total.	Correction to be added to former Death Rate.	True Death Rate per 1,000.
1857 - -	30	9	39	·466	17·43
1858 - -	14	5	19	·225	18·73
1859 - -	12	12	24	·277	16·59
1860 - -	7	6	13	·147	20·01
1861 - -	8	4	12	·133	16·50
1862 - -	2	3	5	·055	15·07
1863 - -	3	2	5	·054	15·55
1864 - -	2	1	3	·032	15·39
1865 - -	1	2	3	·031	13·30
1866 - -	9	—	9	·092	13·72
Mean for the Ten Years -				·151	16·23

The birth rate, it will be seen from the first table, has in the ten years declined from 38·82 in 28·81;* that is, in 1857 the births were one in every 26 of the population; in 1866 they were only one in 35. Even as compared with the previous year there was a decrease at the rate of 3·42 per 1,000; and as compared with the mean rate for the ten years, a decrease of 5·87. The births in England in 1863 were at the rate of 35·39† per 1,000. In Victoria, in 1865, they were at the rate of 42·04 per 1,000; in New South Wales, 42·01; and in South Australia, 42·60. It must be confessed, therefore, that the rate of increase to the population from births is less in this than in any of the other Colonies named. This will sufficiently account for the very small increase in the number of inhabitants, in comparison with that of other countries similarly circumstanced, which has been noticed under the head of "Population." The mean birth rate during the first five years of the above period was 37·17, and in the latter only 32·20, which is a decrease of 4·97, or 13·37 per cent. The excess in the birth over the death rate in the first quinquenniad was 19·32 per 1,000, in the latter only 17·59. The births, therefore, are diminishing more rapidly than the deaths; so that unless this effect be interrupted by external causes, the natural increase to the population will gradually become less and less. The removal of an undue proportion of phosphates from the soil by exhaustive cropping has probably had some share in bringing about this result, since, according to physiologists, a deficiency of phosphoric acid in the soil is followed by a diminution of vigour in the human frame.

The proportion of male to female children born in 1866 was 1,432 to 1,373, or as 104·12 to 100. In all England (1861) it was as 104·6 to 100.

Of the 1,327 deaths registered in 1866, 791 were males, and 536 females,—the former exceeding the latter by 47·5 per cent.; so that the excess of deaths of males was about ten times the excess of births.

The deaths of children under one year of age were one in five of the whole number, or 19·89 per cent. In Victoria, in 1865, the proportion was nearly one in three, or 33·82 per cent.‡ In Queensland the proportion was one in three, or 33·47 per cent., in the same year. In England, in 1861,§ the ratio was one in four, or 25·03 per cent.

The true death rate for all ages in Tasmania in 1866 was 13·72 per 1,000 living, and for the ten years 16·23. The mean in Victoria, in 1856–65, was 17·84; and in England, in 1852–61, 22·21. The mean for the very healthiest county of England (Rutlandshire), for the ten years 1852–61, was 18·12. From 17·85, the mean of the first quinquenniad, the death rate had decreased to 14·61, the mean of the second quinquenniad, or 18·15 per cent. In the course of the remarks that I have made it has frequently been my duty to draw comparisons unfavourable to this Colony, and it gives me, therefore, the greater satisfaction to be able to record the fact that as regards the healthiness of its climate (in spite of want of sewerage in the towns) Tasmania is greatly superior to any of the other countries to which I have referred. In this respect she is, perhaps, unrivalled.

* Throughout these and all other similar calculations the population is taken as it stood at the end of the year.

† "Progress of Victoria," p. 23.

‡ The deaths of children under one year are not distinguished in the statistics of New South Wales and South Australia.

§ Registrar-General's Report of 1863, the latest to which I have access.

TASMANIA.

The quarterly returns of deaths enables us to institute the following comparison as regards Tasmania (1858-66) and Victoria (10 years):*—

Quarters.	Proportion per 100 of Total Number of Deaths.	
	Tasmania.	Victoria.
First (January to March) -	27·53	32·05
Second (April to June) -	24·58	25·31
Third (July to September) -	26·01	20·74
Fourth (October to December) -	21·81	21·90
	100·00	100·00

In Tasmania, as it thus appears, the healthiest quarter is the last, from October to December; the least healthy is the first, from January to March. In Victoria the least healthy is also the first; but the smallest proportion of deaths is there to be found in the third quarter, and not, as in our climate, in the fourth.

Marriages.

The number of marriages registered in 1866 was 571, being 20 less than in the previous year; only two of these took place before deputy registrars. On referring to the foregoing table for the last ten years it will be seen that the marriage rate has been gradually decreasing from 10·73 per 1,000 of the population in 1857 to only 5·86 in 1866, or 54·62 per cent. The mean rate for the ten years was 7·8 per 1,000. In Victoria the marriage ratio has also declined, during the ten years 1856-65, from 10·71 to 7·29, the mean being 8·79. In New South Wales the rate has also decreased, in 1857-64, from 10·0 to 9·02, the mean being 9·33.

Returns of diseases and deaths.

Among the statistical records appears this year, for the first time, a return of diseases and deaths in the different hospitals and the Queen's Asylum,† classified according to the system of Dr. Farr, which is now adopted by the Registrar-General of England, and by all the Australian Colonies. The compilation of this return has cost me much thought and labour, but I have received valuable assistance in my attempt to introduce the system here from the Nosological Index prepared by the Registrar-General of Victoria, several copies of which he was kind enough to forward to me; and I have supplied one to each of the institutions included in the return. It is very desirable that the deaths for the whole Colony should be classified according to the same system, which might easily be done by supplying to each of the deputy registrars a copy of the index referred to, with proper directions as to the use of it. I should be happy to lend any assistance that might be required in promoting the adoption of this system, which is most valuable for purposes of comparison with the vital statistics of other countries. There is another and more important purpose to be served by such a classification and record of diseases. "One great object of statistical returns is to furnish such an identification of the diseases prevalent in any locality as may lead to a determination of the causes and may give an immediate clue to the measures which are necessary for prevention. In all cases, especially in the army and navy, this is one great use of statistical returns."‡

Death rate in hospitals.

The whole number of cases treated in the institutions referred to in this return was 2,214, and the number of deaths 205, or 9·26 per cent. of the cases treated. If we exclude the Queen's Asylum, the mortality in the hospitals alone would be 12·53 per cent. In Victoria, in 1865, the hospital death rate was 10·32 per cent. In the Adelaide Hospital it was 9·6 per cent., the mean of ten years (1856-65) being 8·75.

In the Hospital for the Insane the number of deaths was 13, the average number of patients for the year being 251, which gives a proportion of 5·18 per cent. In 57 lunatic asylums in England, in 1851, the rate of mortality was 11·07 per cent., calculated not upon the average but upon the number of patients in the different asylums on the 8th April, the day of the census.

Influence of density of population.

It should be observed that in comparing the death rate in different localities or institutions it is necessary to make allowance for the different degrees of density of

* "Progress of Victoria," p. 24. These particulars, as regards the other Australian Colonies, are not readily obtainable.

† The hospital for insane has not been included, since all the patients are suffering from one primary disease (mania), and there is, therefore, no common ground of comparison, except with institutions of a similar kind.

‡ Dr. Parkes, F.R.S., in Transactions of the Epidemiological Society of London, 1864-5; Appendix, p. 27.

the population or inmates, since it has been found to be a well-established law that the mortality increases *pari passu* with the density. The mortality in the hospitals here should, therefore, be less than in Melbourne; the anomaly must be left to be explained by those who are in a position to compare the arrangements in the respective institutions.*

It is a fact worthy of special record that during the past year—for the first time, I believe, in the history of the institution—there was not a single death among the children in the Queen's Asylum. When it is considered that the daily average number throughout the year was 511, the circumstance cannot fail to be regarded as a very remarkable one.

TASMANIA.

Queen's
Asylum.

IX.—*Miscellaneous.*

Under this head two returns have been added which will probably be read with some interest: 1. Of the number of electors for both Houses of Parliament, showing the changes in the rolls during the year; and, 2. Of the number of persons employed in gold mining at Fingal, and the quantity of gold obtained. The latter is not so perfect as could be wished, but it is hoped that in another year it may be rendered more complete.

Conclusion.

I have thought it necessary in the foregoing observations to take a careful and detailed review of the commercial, financial, and agricultural condition of this Colony in the last decennial period, in order to lay a sure foundation for future comparison. Several ways in which our resources seem capable of development have been pointed out, and some manufactures have been suggested. But as all, or nearly all, manufactures require a considerable preliminary outlay, and involve a certain amount of risk, it is not always suitable to the circumstances of a young and thinly-peopled Colony to undertake them. It is, therefore, to agriculture that we must chiefly look as a means of rescuing this Colony from the state of depression into which it has so long and so continuously been drifting. A system of agriculture, to fulfil the conditions necessary to success in the present time, must involve (1) the employment of labour-saving appliances in every case in which their use is possible, to which end some capital will be requisite; (2) the copious application of fertilizers, natural and artificial, and the proper adaptation, on the principles laid down by Liebig and others, of plant, soil, and manure to one another; (3) such a rotation of crops as may be found most suitable to the climate and circumstances; and (4) a proper system of fallowing wherever it may be called for. Pursued in this manner, and with the advantages of this climate, which is very rarely, if ever, subject to the summer droughts and the winter floods of the neighbouring Colonies, agriculture might make this a second Sicily—the granary of the Australian group. A large increase of agricultural produce would necessitate and justify the construction of a system of railroads, which again, by a reflex action, would tend to promote such an increase, and excite generally a spirit of activity and enterprize. The stocking of our rivers with salmon and trout, which in a few years will have been accomplished, will open up parts of the Colony where now not a human habitation is to be found, and will carry civilization and industry into the desert; so that the only element really wanting in order to bring back prosperity is the ability to create it.

Before concluding I desire to express my acknowledgments to Dr. Hall for his obliging courtesy in responding to several communications which I made to him on the subject of improving our vital statistics; to Mr. Stops for some returns of fees supplied by him, which it did not come within the strict requirements of his duty to furnish; and to Mr. Solly for some suggestions as to the form of the returns relating to several of the penal and charitable institutions. The aid afforded by Mr. Hull in reading with me a part of the proof sheets has been already mentioned. I also desire to acknowledge the zealous co-operation of Mr. Barnard in all matters relating to the printing of this volume.

The following words, from the preface to the essay entitled “The Progress of Victoria,” by the Registrar-General, which has been printed in the report of the Exhibition

* “The mortality of the sick who are treated in the large general hospitals of large towns is twice as great as the mortality of the sick who are treated in small hospitals in small towns.

“It remains to be seen whether the mortality in small hospitals is not twice as great as the mortality of the same diseases in patients who are treated in clean cottages.

“Should this turn out to be the case, the means of realising the advantages of the hospital system, without its disadvantages, will then be sought and probably found, as the problem is not insoluble.”—*Dr. Farr to the Registrar-General of England, 1863.*

TASMANIA.

just closed, are so apposite to the present occasion that I cannot do better than reproduce them here:—"All who have ever attempted to work up statistical data will readily appreciate the great amount of methodized skilled labour necessary to the accurate combination of facts as herein presented. In dealing with the vast mass of figures whence those now furnished were drawn it is hardly possible to escape some inaccuracy. But it is hoped there exists no error of importance. Should any mistake whatever be discovered, I shall be most thankful to have it pointed out, however trifling that mistake may be. 'Trifles,' said the old master, 'make perfection, and 'perfection is no trifle.'"

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. C. NOWELL,
Statistician.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

No. 19.

No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir D. DALY, to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 46.)

Government House, Adelaide,
August 27, 1867.

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for this Province for the year 1866.

The general statistics of the Colony, which, with the report of the Government statist for that year, are annexed to this volume, exhibit the progress in so much detail as to render any observation on my part unnecessary.

2. The prolonged drought which occasioned so much loss and suffering to this Colony, especially to the pastoral interest, has been succeeded by an abundant harvest, and the pastoral runs are recovering in some degree from the serious losses in the stock of sheep and cattle which they had sustained.

3. The present season is also favourable, and gives reasonable ground for the expectation that the harvest of the present year will not be inferior to that of the last.

4. The effects of the late monetary crisis are disappearing somewhat tardily, and have deranged the operations of the money market to such an extent as to have induced my Government to discontinue immigration for several months past, with the intention, however, of resuming it again when the circumstances of the Colony justify it.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) D. DALY.
Governor.

Report to the Hon. Henry Ayres, M.L.C., Chief Secretary.

SIR,

Chief Secretary's Office, Adelaide, July 13, 1867.

In presenting the "Statistical Register of South Australia for the year 1866," I have the honour to submit the following résumé of the principal facts disclosed in the accompanying voluminous tables, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, being in continuation of the annual reports heretofore published illustrative of the progress of the Province, and bringing under review, in a condensed form, and with brief explanatory remarks, such statistical information as chiefly bears upon the social state and material condition of the community.

Population.

The usual quinquennial census was taken on the 26th March of the past year, and exhibited a larger number of persons resident in the Province than was shown in the estimated population returns compiled from the statements of births and deaths, and of immigration and emigration by sea. It is only by a census that the effects of migration across the border can be ascertained, and in this instance the balance of arrivals over departures by land was in favour of South Australia.

The results of the census, however, form the subject of a separate volume now in the press, and shortly to be issued in a complete form; but from tables published within a

few weeks of the enumeration it appeared that the total population on the night of the 25th March 1866 was 163,452 persons, of whom 85,334 were males and 78,118 females. From that date to the close of the year the increase of population by the excess of immigration over emigration (by sea) was 2,335 persons, and the addition by excess of births over deaths during the same period was 3,366 souls, making a total population on 31st December last of 169,153 persons—88,272 males and 80,881 females. The total increase since the date of the census, a period of nine months, was therefore 5,701 persons—2,938 males and 2,763 females.

In forming a comparison with the preceding year, the addition to the population during the whole twelve months must be taken, and which amounted to 6,849 persons, 3,434 males and 3,415 females, the natural increase having been 4,029 persons, 1,933 males and 2,096 females; and the balance of arrivals over departures by sea, 2,820 persons, 1,501 males and 1,319 females. The increase in population from all sources during 1866 was therefore less by 2,415 persons than in 1865, when the rate of increase was six and a quarter per cent., whilst the rate during the past year was slightly under four and a half per cent. In 1864 the increase amounted to five per cent., and in 1863 to three and three quarters. The augmentation was therefore below the average of the three preceding years, namely, five per cent.

Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

The natural increase of the population during the year 1866 amounted to 4,029 souls, or 469 less than in 1865, attributable to a greater mortality, as the number of births exceeded those of the previous year by 110.

6,782 children were born in 1866 (as compared with 6,672 the year before), 3,470 being boys, and 3,312 girls. The birth rate was therefore 41 per thousand of the population, as compared with 45 in 1865 and 44 per thousand in 1864.

Many more deaths were recorded in 1866 than in the preceding year, namely, 2,753 as against 2,174, or an increase of 579. The rate of mortality in the year 1866 was 17·5 per 1,000 persons, in comparison with 14·8 in the preceding twelve months, but was only 1·1 higher than the rate shown in 1863. The average death rate in this Colony may be taken to be 16·5 per 1,000 persons living at the commencement of the year.

With regard to the sexes, 1,537 males died, as compared with 1,220 in the previous year, and 1,216 females as against 954, showing an increase of 317 of the former sex, and of 262 of the latter.

Out of 2,753 deaths, more than one-half, or 1,548, were deaths of children under five years of age, being nearly the same proportion as last year.

The mortality among infants was also great, being 50 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 48 per cent. in 1865; the actual number of deaths of infants under two years of age being 1,385 and 1,041 respectively. During the preceding five years the deaths in this class ranged from 1,024 to 1,041 annually, with the exception of the year 1864 (scarlatina being then prevalent), when the number reached 1,214, or 171 fewer than last year.

The usual nosological table, showing the causes of death during each of the past 11 years, presents important particulars as to the prevalence of epidemics, and in connexion with the monthly returns, will hereafter be esteemed of the highest value.

There was a diminution of 137 in the number of marriages, 1,299 only being solemnized as compared with 1,436 in 1865; with that exception, however, they were more numerous than in any previous year.

Immigration and Emigration.

The total addition to the population from the excess of immigration over emigration by sea amounted to 2,820 persons, of whom 1,501 were males and 1,319 were females. From this source in 1865 our number was augmented by 4,766 persons, 2,649 males and 2,117 females, being a greater number than had been recorded during either of the preceding ten years—14 immigrant vessels having arrived, landing 4,625 souls. The decrease in 1866, as compared with the previous year, is therefore considerable, amounting to 1,946 persons, 1,148 males and 798 females. It is true only 10 immigrant ships arrived during the course of twelve months, bringing 3,891 persons, or 734 less than in 1865, but there was contemporaneously an increased emigration, amounting altogether to 4,135 persons, or 432 more than in the previous year.

During 1866 the number of immigrants at the public expense was 3,891, or 1,071 more than the net gain by immigration from all sources; in the preceding year the net gain by immigration exceeded the number of Government immigrants by 141 souls.

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA

The following table shows the general immigration and emigration by sea; the balance of arrivals over departures; together with the number of immigrants introduced at the public expense, during the past ten years:—

Years.	Immigration.			Emigration.			Excess of Immigration over Emigration.			Number of Immigrants at the Public Expense.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
1857	5,262	2,876	8,138	3,205	1,704	4,909	2,057	1,172	3,229	2,422	1,543	3,965
1858	4,826	3,029	7,855	2,499	1,110	3,609	2,327	1,919	4,246	1,894	1,659	3,553
1859	2,910	1,959	4,869	2,271	1,380	3,651	689	579	1,218	913	1,098	2,011
1860	3,109	1,265	4,374	3,444	1,458	4,902	335*	193*	528*	492	480	972
1861	2,181	946	3,127	1,243	834	2,077	988	112	1,050	18	3	21
1862	2,091	1,139	3,230	1,787	898	2,685	304	241	545	281	330	611
1863	2,685	1,549	4,234	2,022	870	2,892	663	679	1,342	811	688	1,499
1864	3,720	2,238	5,958	1,776	900	2,676	1,944	1,338	3,282	1,459	1,188	2,647
1865	5,318	3,151	8,469	2,669	1,034	3,703	2,649	2,117	4,766	2,692	1,933	4,625
1866	4,400	2,555	6,955	2,899	1,236	4,135	1,501	1,319	2,820	2,252	1,639	3,891
Total	36,502	20,707	57,209	23,815	11,424	35,239	12,087	9,283	21,970	13,234	10,561	23,795

* Excess of Emigration.

The aggregate arrivals during the ten years comprised in the above return numbered 57,209; and the departures from the Colony 35,239, showing a balance of arrivals over departures of 21,970 souls. During the same period, 23,795 Government immigrants were introduced, or 1,825 more than the net gain by immigration, and equal to eight per cent. of the Government immigration.

This loss, however, chiefly resulted during the first five years of the decade. The balance of arrivals over departures during that period amounted to 9,215, the number of Government immigrants being 10,522, showing a deficiency of 1,307 persons, or 12½ per cent. During the five years ending with 1866, however, the number of Government immigrants was greater by four per cent. only than the net gain from the excess of immigration of both classes over emigration. The arrivals exceeded the departures by 12,755, whilst the Government immigration amounted to 13,273 persons, showing a deficiency of 518 persons during the last five years.

Public Worship.

No less than 31 new places of worship are returned by the several religious denominations as opened during the year 1866, compared with six in the preceding year. The additional accommodation thus provided was 7,973 sittings. The aggregate number of churches and chapels is 492, with seats for 91,816 persons. In addition thereto, 153 rooms were temporarily used for religious services, capable of accommodating 6,361 persons; so that the total number of places of worship used during 1866 would be 645, with sittings for 98,177 persons, or equal to every man, woman, and child in the Colony of 14 years of age and upwards, supposing all to attend simultaneously. The number of private rooms or other temporary places of worship was 20 less than in 1866, owing to the abandonment of many preaching stations in the north and to the rapid substitution of more appropriate buildings. The following figures show the advancement made during the last three years:—

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Number of churches or chapels	455	461	492
„ sittings in ditto	79,595	83,843	91,816
„ rooms used, &c.	180	173	153
„ sittings in ditto	7,621	6,507	6,361
Total number of places of worship	635	634	645
„ sittings provided	87,216	90,350	98,177
Sunday schools	382	384	398
Sunday-school teachers	3,254	3,484	3,807
Sunday scholars	23,087	23,739	25,914

It will be seen from the above table that the extension of Sunday schools is progressing favourably, the total number in connexion with the various religious denominations

now being 398, with 3,807 teachers, of whom 1,873 were males and 1,934 females, and the total number of scholars being 25,914, of whom 12,829 were boys and 13,085 girls; showing an increase over the preceding year of 14 schools, 323 teachers, and 2,175 scholars. The increase in the number of teachers and scholars was greater than had been recorded in any previous year.

Education.

The return of the number of children attending schools licensed by the Board of Education shows an increase of thirteen schools, or five per cent., and of 1,010 scholars, or 7·4 per cent., as compared with the year 1865.

The total number of schools open was 292, and the average number of scholars on the roll, boys 8,160, and girls 6,530, together 14,690; of whom 11,472 on the average were in attendance, or 78 per cent. of the number on the roll. The average number of scholars belonging to each school was 50 against 49, and the average attendance thereat 39 and 38 in the respective years, a slight improvement on former returns. The above figures relate to the position of the schools in the month of October, the period of the year when attendance is most regular; the number attending varies considerably each month, and the average for the year is less than the number above given.

The proportion of the sexes remains the same as before, namely, of boys 55·5 per cent., and of girls 44·5 per cent. of the total scholars. As respects the ages of scholars, little improvement is shown, the period of school life being much too limited to enable scholars to obtain more than a rudimentary education. Children of six years and under formed 28·5 per cent.; of seven to ten years, 51 per cent.; of eleven to twelve years, 13·5 per cent.; and of thirteen years of age and upwards, only 7 per cent. of the whole number.

The education grant is chiefly beneficial to the sparsely peopled districts. Out of 14,690 scholars 1,509 only were at licensed schools within the city, 1,316 in other corporate towns, 11,865 being in the country districts.

There are now no less than 68 school-houses throughout the country held in trust for purposes of education; these have been erected by private subscription, supplemented from funds voted by Parliament to the amount of 12,864*l.*

The financial statement shows 14,662*l.* to have been paid as stipends to teachers, or an average of 1*l.* 1*s.* 5½*d.* for each scholar. The greatest number of destitute children in attendance was 1,191, for whose schooling the Government paid the sum of 18*s.* 6¾*d.* each.

The total amount of school fees received by the teachers from parents, &c. was 14,622*l.*, giving an average of 19*s.* 2½*d.* for each scholar. The total cost of each child's education during 1866 is stated to average 2*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*, and the expense of each licensed school to have averaged 61*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* It is estimated that, including private schools, one in 7·7 of the population is receiving education.

The total expenditure by the State for educational purposes during the past decade has amounted to 170,137*l.*; the sum expended last year being 21,683*l.* sterling; these amounts including the grants to the several mechanics' institutes.

Charitable Institutions.

During 1866 medical relief was afforded to 1,257 patients in the Adelaide Hospital, or to 111 more than in 1865. At the beginning of the year there were 137 patients in the building, 98 males and 39 females, which number was increased by the end of the year to 143, 97 males and 46 females. The total number admitted during the twelve months was 1,120, compared with 1,031 in 1865; and the daily average number in the hospital was 138, or 17 more than last year. Of these 95 were males and 43 females. Whilst the daily number of the former sex has increased during the past four years from 71 to 95, the average number of female patients has remained at 43. In a total number of 1,257 cases treated, 885 patients were discharged cured, 105 were relieved, and 124 died—93 males and 31 females. The average duration of stay of patients in the institution was in acute diseases from 17 to 19 days, and in chronic cases from 81 to 85 days. With regard to the various forms of suffering, reference must be made to the very full returns given in the detailed tables, which show the number of cases in each class of disease, whether male or female patients, the result of the treatment, and the number of inmates on the first and last days of the year, classified under each particular ailment.

The slight improvement in the returns from the Lunatic Asylum noticed last year has not been continuous, the records for 1866 showing a large increase in the number of admissions, a reduction in the number of patients discharged, and a consequent augmentation of the number of inmates at the close of the year.

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

On the 1st of January there were 108 male and 87 female inmates, together 195; on the 31st of December there were 224 inmates, 125 males and 99 females, or 17 more of the former sex and 12 of the latter than on the same day in the previous year. The daily average number of patients was 206, as compared with 195; 88 cases were admitted in lieu of 63; and 43 discharged, either cured or relieved, instead of 50; the number of deaths, 16, was the same in either year. During the twelve months 283 patients were under treatment, as compared with 262 the year before. Only 17 out of 224 inmates remaining in the asylum at the close of the year were in a position to repay a portion of the cost of their maintenance, all the other patients being supported entirely at the public expense.

The returns relating to destitution are of a very unsatisfactory character, exhibiting an unusual number of claimants for relief at the hands of the State.

The statement of the average number of destitute poor supported or relieved by the Government, exclusive of patients in the hospital and lunatic asylum, is divided into two classes, indoor and outdoor cases.

Only aged and infirm persons or sick and deserted children are, as a rule, admitted into the asylum, and numbered 233 as compared with 178 last year. The additional number of inmates was 55, consisting of 42 males, 22 being adults and 20 children; and of 13 females, of whom seven were adults and six children. The increase in the year preceding was 32—20 males and 12 females, so that the additional claimants for permanent support during the past year were confined to the male sex, and in relative number not greater than has been before recorded.

Turning, however, to the statement of the number of recipients of outdoor relief throughout the Province, it is lamentable to find that more than twice the amount of eleemosynary aid was required than in the previous year, and that irrespective of distinction in age, nationality, or sex. The total average number of outdoor cases was 1,144, 566 males and 578 females, as against 526 cases in the previous year, 249 males and 277 females, showing an increase of 618 cases. It is specified that all the male adults were relieved in consequence of sickness; their average number was 104, or 55 more than last year. The average number of adult females was 135, or 84 more than last year. Many of these are women who have been deserted by their husbands, and, with their children, requiring partial relief.

In commenting upon the rapid increase in the number of destitute children and orphans in my last report, when there appeared an addition of 156 over the previous year, or about one-third more, I adverted to the want of industrial schools or similar institutions in the more populous districts, where these children could receive the care and attention at present necessarily withheld. Now, however, that during the course of a single year the number has increased twofold; when, instead of 500, there are over 1,000 children on the average receiving support from the State, the increased attention now being devoted to this subject will be considered as well-timed. The returns this year show 1,007 destitute children, of whom 525 were boys and 482 girls; last year 512 children, of whom 253 were boys and 259 girls; all (except 102 at the Government Free School) distributed in various localities throughout the Province. 1,100*l.* was expended by the Education Board in remunerating licensed teachers for the instruction of children whose parents were unable to pay the customary school fee.

During 1866 the amount expended by the State on charitable institutions, irrespective of cost of buildings, was 32,026*l.*, or twice the sum paid three years ago. It was divided among the three institutions as follows:—Medical and hospital, 8,740*l.*; lunatic asylum, 9,526*l.*; and destitute poor, 13,759*l.*; the latter department expending 50 per cent. more than in the previous year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Following upon a year when the public revenue had increased 42 per cent., the returns for 1866 show a diminution of less moment than might have been anticipated, owing to the demand for land, which had been extraordinary in 1865, having continued through the earlier months of the succeeding year.

The revenue from all sources amounted to 949,774*l.*, as compared with 1,089,128*l.*, or a decrease of 139,354*l.* The principal decrease was in the payments into the Treasury for land, which amounted to 331,285*l.* instead of 504,677*l.*, or 173,392*l.* less. Other smaller decreases were compensated for by increases on remaining items. The amount of customs receipts, the only source of taxation, was 230,134*l.*, or 27*s.* 2*d.* per head of the population, as against 30*s.* per head in the preceding year.

Consequent upon the accumulation of revenue during the previous year the expenditure during 1866 was enhanced, amounting to 1,064,323*l.*, as compared with 790,504*l.*, or an increase of 273,819*l.* The principal addition was under the head of public works, upon which 402,245*l.* were expended, as against 223,083*l.*, or an increase of 179,162*l.* In connexion with this expenditure must be taken the payments for interest and sinking fund of the bonded debt, 95,830*l.*, and also 20,385*l.* from the loan account, making a total sum spent on account of public improvements during 1866 of 518,461*l.*, half a million being provided out of the general revenue. The immigration expenditure was 65,181*l.* as against 53,688*l.*

The balance to the credit of the treasurer at the close of the year amounted to 403,091*l.* sterling, as compared with 417,640*l.* at its commencement.

From a return of the gross revenue and expenditure during the past ten years, it appears that during that period the receipts into the treasury, from all sources, have amounted to 6,429,339*l.*, and the outgoings to 6,359,452*l.* Of the former sum the ordinary revenue contributed 3,719,793*l.*, and the remaining 2,709,546*l.* was procured from the land fund. During the like period the total expenditure upon public improvements and immigration amounted to 3,063,938*l.*, not including the cost attending the establishments connected with the survey and sale of the land, the prosecution of public works, and the supervision of immigration.

Loans for Public Works.

The amount of the public debt of the Province, which has been incurred solely for the construction of reproductive public works, partly in aid of sums devoted out of the general revenue, amounted on the 31st December last to 775,600*l.*, or a reduction of 20,600*l.* during the twelve months. The actual amount paid off during 1866 was, however, 44,600*l.*, a fresh loan to the extent of 24,000*l.* having been contracted for the purposes of the Strathalbyn tramway; being the first incurred since 1863.

The public indebtedness amounts to 4*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* per head of the population, or about one-third of the rate existing in the neighbouring communities.

Since the first bond was issued in 1854 the sum of 1,092,900*l.* has been raised by loan, of which 317,300*l.* has been paid off, leaving the present debt, the bulk of which is extinguishable during the next twenty years, at the amount above stated.

Banking.

The usual half-yearly statements of the average liabilities and assets of the six banking institutions carrying on business in this Province have been duly published in accordance with the requirements of the Act relating thereto.

For purposes of comparison, however, the subjoined abstract of the aggregate average assets and liabilities of the several banks for the six months ending December 1864, 1865, and 1866 respectively, will be found convenient.

LIABILITIES.

	1864.			1865.			1866.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Notes in circulation - - - -	315,126	6	8	340,512	2	10	239,372	8	2
Bills in circulation - - - -	12,700	9	9	12,138	12	7	42,246	19	4
Balance due to other banks - - -	11,715	2	4	26,415	4	7	32,210	9	2
Deposits - - - - -	1,158,931	11	11	1,568,151	1	1	1,401,565	9	5
Total average Liabilities - - -	1,498,473	10	8	1,947,217	1	1	1,715,395	6	1

ASSETS.

	1864.			1865.			1866.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Coin and bullion - - - - -	411,710	3	0	445,996	19	8	318,927	5	5
Government securities - - - -	4,600	0	0	4,600	0	0	4,600	0	0
Landed property and bank premises - - -	60,808	18	11	69,257	16	11	86,404	9	1
Notes and bills of other banks - - -	8,109	9	4	13,325	11	8	26,611	8	9
Balances due from other banks - - -	151,312	15	1	73,600	3	5	63,426	7	3
Notes and bills discounted, and other debts due to banks not enumerated - - - - -	1,724,759	5	4	2,424,924	8	8	3,120,092	10	10
Total average Assets - - -	2,361,300	11	8	3,031,705	0	4	3,620,062	1	4

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

It will be seen from the above how far the commercial crisis of 1866, in combination with the disastrous effects of a lengthened drought, affected the monetary position of the colonists.

In the December half-year 1865 the average liabilities amounted to 1,947,217*l.*, in 1866 to 1,715,395*l.* The average assets for the same periods being 3,031,705*l.* and 3,620,062*l.* respectively.

On analyzing the returns, it appears that the deposits were 166,585*l.* less, amounting to 1,401,565*l.* instead of 1,568,151*l.* This diminution is small in amount, but becomes important when compared with an increase in the previous year's returns of 409,220*l.* The note circulation also fell off to the extent of 100,000*l.*, or from 340,512*l.* to 239,372*l.*, returning to the amount at which it stood in the last half of 1863.

The chief feature in the returns, however, is the great increase in the amount of accommodation afforded to the public out of the bank's own capital. With reduced, instead of rapidly increasing deposits, and a deficiency of nearly one-third in the note circulation, the discounts and advances were augmented by 695,168*l.*, or from 2,424,924*l.* to 3,120,092*l.* sterling. In the December half of 1865 the deposits amounted to 1,568,151*l.*, and the advances to 2,424,924*l.*, the latter exceeding the former by 856,773*l.* In the same period last year the average deposits were 1,401,565*l.*, and the discounts 3,120,092*l.*, or a difference of 1,718,527*l.*, or just double that of the preceding year. The intensity of the monetary pressure may be estimated when so great and unusual a demand upon the assistance of the banks was promptly met to the liberal extent above disclosed. The rates of discount and of exchange were, of course, greatly affected. The usual statement showing the latter ruling for each quarter will be found interesting. During the third quarter of the year bank drafts on London at sixty days' sight reached three per cent. premium.

Savings Bank.

Although this institution was naturally affected by the financial difficulties existing during the year under review, it is satisfactory to find, from a close examination of the returns rendered, that the pressure upon the class of the community from which the depositors are principally drawn was less than might have been anticipated. The number of new accounts opened was 2,135, or only 198 fewer, and the amount deposited 124,427*l.*, or but 6,688*l.* less than in 1865. The amount to the credit of the several depositors at the close of the year was 249,329*l.*, or 9,364*l.* less than on the last day of the preceding year, the total number of accounts open being 7,679, or 603 more. The depositors drew from the bank 147,524*l.*, as compared with 115,751*l.*, or an increase of 31,773*l.*, as against an increase shown in the previous year of 28,020*l.* on the same item.

The reserve fund increased from 15,378*l.* to 17,370*l.*, and the rate of interest allowed to depositors from five to six per cent. per annum. The total funds of the bank amounted to 266,700*l.*, as compared with 274,071*l.* The following abstract of the bank's operations during the past five years will be found useful:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
New accounts opened (number)	1,264	1,440	1,806	2,333	2,135
Increase in depositors (number)	629	834	1,132	1,233	603
	£	£	£	£	£
Amount deposited	79,482	91,788	120,924	131,115	124,427
" withdrawn	54,495	63,393	87,731	115,751	147,524
" depositors' balances	152,663	189,143	231,972	258,693	249,329
" reserve funds	10,842	12,062	13,431	15,378	17,370
" total funds	163,506	201,205	245,403	274,071	266,700

The rate of interest charged by the bank for loans on freehold security was increased during the last quarter of the year to eight per cent., having previously stood for several years at seven and a half per cent. per annum. The total amount lent on mortgage is 178,862*l.*, and 11,600*l.* is invested in Government securities. In addition to the branches of this institution heretofore existing at Port Adelaide, Mount Gambia, and Kapunda, further facilities were afforded to depositors by the opening, early in the year, of agencies at the telegraph offices in the several townships of Clare, Gawler, Goolwa, Koorunga, Strathalbyn, and Wallaroo.

*Imports and Exports.*SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

Trade languished during 1866 from a variety of causes, but if it be remembered that the following comparisons are made with one of the most prosperous years experienced, it will be found that the diminution recorded is, relatively, of less moment than would at first sight appear.

The combined import and export trade amounted to 5,693,879*l.*, against 6,057,442*l.* in the preceding year, showing a decrease of 363,563*l.* or six per cent.; but the trade of 1866 was equal in amount to that of the year 1864, and nearly one-third greater than that of 1863.

The total imports were valued at 2,835,142*l.* as compared with 2,927,596*l.*, or a decrease of 92,454*l.* When compared with 1864 there is an increase shown of 422,211*l.*, or nearly 20 per cent. The total exports amounted to 2,858,737*l.*, or a falling off of 271,109*l.* or about eight per cent. When compared with 1864, in which year the export trade reached to 3,305,545*l.*, there is a decrease of 446,808*l.*, or 13 per cent.

Taking the three years together, the total imports amounted to 8,175,669*l.*, and the exports to 9,294,128*l.*, leaving a balance in favour of the Colony of 1,118,459*l.*, distributed throughout the period as follows:—In 1864, the exports exceeded the imports by 892,614*l.*, in 1865 by 202,250*l.*, and last year by 23,595*l.* only. In 1864 the exports of staple products were valued at 42 per cent. more than the goods cleared for home consumption; in 1865 at eight per cent. only; but in 1866 the shipments did not exceed the imports by as much as one per cent.

During the first 18 months of this period the exports exceeded the imports enormously, and unfortunately induced excessive importations during the latter half of the period, when the exports falling considerably, depression naturally resulted.

The following table shows the combined import and export trade for each year since 1857, inclusive, the total imports, the imports retained for home consumption, and the imports re-exported; the aggregate exports, the value of staple products exported, and the difference between the latter and the value of imports consumed:—

Year.	Combined Import and Export Trade.	Total Imports.	Imports retained for Home Consumption.	Imports re-exported.	Total Exports.	Exports of Produce of the Colony.	Balance Pro- duce exported over Imports consumed.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1857 - -	3,581,624	1,623,052	1,408,664	214,388	1,958,572	1,744,184	335,520
1858 - -	3,281,536	1,769,351	1,612,207	157,144	1,512,185	1,355,041	257,166
1859 - -	3,163,370	1,507,494	1,353,783	153,711	1,655,876	1,502,165	148,382
1860 - -	3,423,307	1,639,591	1,432,201	207,390	1,783,716	1,576,326	144,125
1861 - -	4,008,329	1,976,018	1,782,346	193,672	2,032,311	1,838,639	56,293
1862 - -	3,966,452	1,820,656	1,595,347	225,309	2,145,796	1,920,487	325,140
1863 - -	4,387,096	2,028,279	1,764,818	263,461	2,358,817	2,095,366	330,538
1864 - -	5,718,476	2,412,931	2,122,923	290,008	3,305,545	3,015,537	892,614
1865 - -	6,057,442	2,927,596	2,552,407	375,189	3,129,846	2,754,657	202,250
1866 - -	5,693,879	2,835,142	2,516,128	319,014	2,858,737	2,539,723	23,595

The combined import and export trade with the United Kingdom amounted to 3,036,138*l.*, as compared with 2,706,584*l.*, or an increase of 329,544*l.* The imports amounted to 1,880,273*l.*, as against 1,741,690*l.*, or 138,583*l.* additional. The shipments to Great Britain amounted to 1,155,865*l.*, as compared with 964,894*l.*, or an increase of 190,971*l.* In 1865 the imports thence exceeded our exports direct by 776,796*l.*, last year by 724,407*l.* We purchased British goods (in addition to large supplies by way of Melbourne) to the extent of 11*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per head of the population, being the same rate as in the preceding year.

With Victoria, however, there was a falling off amounting to half a million sterling—in 1865 the combined import and export trade having reached 1,864,945*l.*, whilst in 1866 it only amounted to 1,337,987*l.* There appears to have been a considerable decrease in both import and export trade, the former amounting to 402,692*l.*, or 217,609*l.* less, and the latter 935,295*l.*, or 309,348*l.* below that of the previous year. The diminution in the import trade amounted to 33 per cent., and in exports to 25 per cent., attributable to the decreased shipments of cereal produce. The balance of trade was in favour of South Australia by 532,603*l.* as against 624,342*l.* the year before.

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

Business transactions with New South Wales were likewise disturbed, and although no serious diminution in the aggregate amount is shown, the traffic was less favourable to this community. The total transactions amounted to 647,624*l.*, or 149,881*l.* less than in 1865; the import trade amounting to 295,071*l.* as compared with 239,820*l.*, or an increase of 55,251*l.*; and the shipments thereto declining from 557,685*l.* to 352,553*l.*, or by 36 per cent. The balance of trade in our favour was reduced from 317,864*l.* to 57,482*l.*

Our shipments to Queensland advanced from 93,031*l.* to 107,651*l.*; but to New Zealand, on the other hand, they diminished, being only 65,586*l.* instead of 143,987*l.*, almost entirely wheat and flour. The exports to Western Australia increased from 28,490*l.* to 44,499*l.*, the imports from thence amounting to 5,031*l.*, showing a balance in our favour of 39,468*l.*; owing to the regular communication, business with this Colony is rapidly increasing. From Tasmania we imported 26,469*l.* worth of timber and potatoes, as against 36,438*l.* the year before.

The exports to the Cape and the Mauritius were almost nominal, being 11,571*l.* only, but the importation of sugar from the latter place increased from 99,712*l.* to 116,973*l.* value. The shipments of copper to India were larger than in 1865, the total exports thereto—nearly the whole being mineral produce—amounted to 144,121*l.* as compared with 76,970*l.*, or an increase of 67,151*l.*

With foreign countries direct trade was very limited. From the United States we received goods of the value of 37,790*l.* as against 47,462*l.*; and, for the first time, shipped wool to that country to the amount of 34,565*l.* From China we imported teas, &c. to the value of 26,576*l.* as against 54,059*l.* in the preceding year. To Batavia we exported flour to the value of 2,130*l.* The imports of Baltic timber declined from 34,525*l.* to 8,500*l.*, whilst the importations from Hamburg direct amounted to 10,594*l.* as compared with 2,455*l.* in the year preceding.

During 1865 the imports of coin and bullion amounted to 72,050*l.*, and the exports to 60,410*l.*, leaving a balance in favour of the Colony of 11,640*l.* Last year, however, we shipped 86,930*l.*, only receiving 68,050*l.* in return, showing a balance against us of 18,880*l.* sterling.

Exports, the Produce of the Colony.

In reviewing the progress of a community liable to periodical depression, but also, as the above table shows, equally open to times of great prosperity, it is especially important, in either of those events, carefully to analyze and compare returns extending over a number of years before forming an opinion as to its present position or its future prospects. With this view is supplied, as in each previous year, a statement from which a fair conclusion may be drawn as to the development of the material interests of the Province. It shows the total value of the exports of colonial produce and of the three principal staple products in the years 1857, 1861, and 1866 respectively, the beginning, middle, and termination of the past decade; also the aggregate value of those exports during the quinquennial periods closing in 1861 and 1866; together with the average annual shipments in the same periods, and the proportion which the shipments of agricultural, pastoral, and mineral staples respectively bore to the total exports of produce:—

Period.	Total Exports of Produce.	Of which Exports.			
		Breadstuffs, Grain, &c.	Wool.	Copper and other Minerals.	Miscellaneous Products.
	£	£	£	£	£
In the year 1857 - - -	1,744,184	755,840	504,520	458,839	24,985
" 1861 - - -	1,838,639	712,789	623,007	452,172	50,671
" 1866 - - -	2,539,723	645,401	990,173	824,501	79,648
Total in five years, 1857-61 -	8,016,355	3,047,394	2,606,705	2,141,848	220,408
" 1862-66 -	12,325,760	4,718,831	3,938,516	3,226,249	442,164
Average of five years, 1857-61 -	1,603,271	609,480	521,341	428,370	44,080
" 1862-66 -	2,465,152	943,766	787,703	645,250	88,433
Rate per cent. of average exports of 1857-61 - - -	100·0	38·0	32·5	26·7	2·8
Rate per cent. of average exports of 1862-66 - - -	100·0	38·3	31·9	26·2	3·6

From the above it appears that the average exports of the five years ending in 1866 was greater by 50 per cent. than that of a similar period ending in 1861, being 2,465,152*l.* as compared with 1,603,271*l.*

The aggregate exports of staple productions during the whole period of ten years amounted to over twenty millions sterling, eight millions being due to the first half of the decade, and twelve and a quarter millions to the last.

The total exports of produce in the year 1857 amounted to 1,744,184*l.*, in 1861 to 1,838,639*l.*, and during last year to 2,539,723*l.* In 1857 the gross value was made up as follows:—Breadstuffs, 755,840*l.*; wool, 504,520*l.*; copper, 458,839*l.*; and miscellaneous, 24,985*l.* In 1866 the proportion of each staple product contributed was as follows:—Wool, 990,173*l.*; copper, 824,501*l.*; cereals, 645,401*l.*; and miscellaneous articles, 79,648*l.*

It will be seen that, so far as agricultural produce is concerned, a mere comparison of value gives an erroneous view, as our cereal exports in 1866 were somewhat larger in quantity than in 1857, although not much, owing to the deficiency in the harvest. This objection equally applies to mineral produce, and although it is necessary to give a comparative statement of the value of exports, the only correct estimate can be formed from the tables of quantities exported, which will be found in later paragraphs. By taking an average of five years, as given in the above table, the error is partly corrected, as such a comparison shows an augmentation in the value of each staple product of over 50 per cent.

The following statement shows as closely as possible the relative value of wheat, wool, and copper as compared with the total exports of produce:—

Five Years, ending with			Ratio of Average of Five Years' Exports of each Class to Total Exports=100.			
			Breadstuffs.	Wool.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous.
			Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1857	-	-	40·4	30·8	24·6	4·2
1858	-	-	40·6	30·7	25·4	3·3
1859	-	-	39·3	31·5	27·1	2·1
1860	-	-	38·2	31·6	27·6	2·6
1861	-	-	38·0	32·5	26·7	2·8
1862	-	-	35·5	33·4	27·2	3·9
1863	-	-	35·2	33·9	27·0	3·9
1864	-	-	38·8	31·8	25·7	3·7
1865	-	-	41·2	30·8	24·5	3·5
1866	-	-	38·3	31·9	26·2	3·6

Taking the average of the five years terminating with 1861, the value of breadstuffs formed 38·0, wool 32·5, copper 26·7, and miscellaneous articles 2·8 per cent. of the total exports. Taking the like average for the similar period ending in 1866, we find breadstuffs contributed 38·3, wool 31·9, copper 26·2, and miscellaneous articles 3·6 per cent. of the gross produce. Although this comparison shows but little change in the relative position of the three classes, a closer examination of the table will disclose many fluctuations during the period over which it extends.

Breadstuffs, Grain, &c.

The great falling off in the exports of breadstuffs during 1866, as compared with the two preceding years, was the main cause of the depression existing during the last twelve months, for not only was the harvest much smaller than its predecessor, yielding 3,587,800 bushels only, as against 4,252,949 bushels, but the higher rates usually attendant upon scarcity were not realized. The early date at which the probable deficiency in the yield was established induced the dispatch of orders to the American continent for large supplies, which continued to pour into the neighbouring Colonies, displacing to a great extent the demand for our grain, and diminishing its market value. Farmers also suffered from holding back wheat early in the season, anticipating higher prices, but which, owing to the glut of American grain, they failed to obtain. Deficient crops and low prices, combined with the unfortunate mistake as to the probabilities of the market, made the year 1866, so far as regards the trade in breadstuffs, singularly disastrous.

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

The total quantity of wheat and flour shipped was 38,808 tons as against 60,513 tons, or one-third less than in 1865. The value was diminished at the same time; the declared amount of the exports of breadstuffs, grain, &c., being only 645,401*l.* as compared with 1,228,480*l.*, or nearly one-half. Notwithstanding the scarcity, the average price of flour throughout the year was only 15*l.* 7*s.* as against 20*l.* 10*s.* per ton, and of wheat only 6*s.* 2*d.* instead of 8*s.* 7*d.* per bushel as in 1865.

The following figures, showing the progress of the wheat and flour trade during the past five years, will be found reassuring as to the future:—

Year.	Acres under Wheat.	Wheat Harvest.	Average yield per Acre.	Flour and Wheat shipped.	Average price, Wheat, per bushel.	Total Value Breadstuffs, Grain, &c. shipped.
		Bushels.	Bs. lbs.	Tons.	<i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	£
1862 -	310,636	3,410,756	10 59	51,092	4 8	633,241
1863 -	320,160	3,841,824	12 0	60,434	4 10	747,116
1864 -	335,758	4,691,919	14 0	76,553	8 6	1,464,593
1865 -	390,836	4,252,949	11 0	60,513	8 7	1,228,480
1866 -	410,608	3,587,800	8 44	38,808	6 2	645,401

So sudden and serious a decline in the export of the chief staple of the country, although felt to be only temporary,* of course produced great depression amongst all classes; not less so from having followed a period of more than ordinary prosperity.

At the present juncture it is important to note the immense stride agriculture has taken during the latter half of the past decade; and that, during the last three years, including that under review, our yearly cereal exports have averaged more than one million sterling; and I consequently subjoin a tabular statement showing the shipments of flour, wheat, bran, and pollard during the years 1857, 1861, and 1866, also the total exports of those articles during the two quinquennial periods, and the average for such periods:—

Period.	Flour.	Wheat.	Total in Flour, at 45 bushels to ton.	Bran and Pollard.
	Tons.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
In the year 1857 -	33,103	200,328	37,555	6,553
" 1861 -	33,011	674,160	47,992	4,826
" 1866 -	30,496	374,048	38,808	2,560
Total in five years, 1857-61	129,612	1,693,360	167,242	23,999
" 1862-66	185,890	4,568,128	287,404	29,699
Average of five years, 1857-61	25,922	338,672	33,448	4,799
" 1862-66	37,178	913,626	57,481	5,935

It will be seen that during the five years ending in 1861 we exported 167,242 tons; in the succeeding quinquennial period we shipped 287,404 tons; and that the shipments during the first five years averaged 33,448 tons, and during the last 57,481 tons.

The large exportable surplus of 1865, 60,513 tons, was wholly disposed of in the adjoining Colonies and New Zealand, without difficulty; but, owing to the immense importations of American grain before referred to, attracted by the high prices that had ruled here during that and the previous year, the smaller disposable surplus of 1866 moved off very slowly, the shipments hence to the Sydney and Melbourne markets being greatly diminished.

Victoria took only 8,476 tons of flour and 22,883 quarters of wheat, as against 15,537 tons and 68,410 quarters in 1865. To New South Wales 12,047 tons of flour and 14,190 quarters of wheat were sent, instead of 14,322 tons and 35,040 quarters respectively. Queensland took a larger quantity of flour, 5,926 tons in lieu of 4,141 tons; but the shipments to New Zealand declined from 3,875 tons to 2,353 tons of flour, and from 17,234 quarters to 9,269 quarters of grain. Western Australia took 841 tons in lieu of 155 tons; and the following smaller shipments were placed:—Mauritius, 471 tons;

* The harvest of 1867 produced 6,561,451 bushels, average yield 14½ bushels per acre. The shipments of flour and wheat to 30 June, 63,000 tons; in comparison with 23,000 tons to same date in previous year.

Cape Town, 220 tons; Batavia, 130 tons; and Singapore, 20 tons; no flour or grain being exported to the United Kingdom.

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

Minerals.

There was a considerable increase in the quantity of mineral produce exported—the total value amounting to 824,501*l.* as compared with 620,112*l.*, showing an increase of 204,389*l.*, or nearly one-third more than in the previous year. Under each head of the return very satisfactory evidence is afforded of the progress made in mining during the twelvemonth just closed; in no previous year had the results of mining industry proved more beneficial to the Colony. During 1866 copper formed more than one-third of our exportable produce. The following table shows the quantity as well as the value of the several kinds of mineral produce shipped, side by side, with the exports during the preceding four years.

Mineral.		1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
Fine copper	Cwts.	85,872	96,039	134,055	100,196	129,272
	£	400,591	447,944	637,791	433,795	584,509
Copper ore	Tons	6,216	5,343	4,545	16,176	16,824
	£	124,263	83,262	38,125	184,677	225,683
Lead	Cwts.	426	271	63	82	1,351
	£	981	525	121	133	2,991
Lead ore	Tons	97	450	567	86	648
	£	2,266	9,007	13,107	1,507	11,318
Regulus	Tons	418	39	52	—	—
	£	19,518	1,655	2,480	—	—
Total value		£ 547,619	542,393	691,624	620,112	824,501

It will be seen that the chief increase was in the export of manufactured copper, of which 129,272 cwts., value 584,509*l.*, were shipped, as against 100,196 cwts. in 1865, value 433,795*l.*; showing an increase in quantity of 29,076 cwts. of fine copper, and in value of 150,714*l.* The shipments of fine copper alone, therefore, averaged 125 tons a week, as against 100 tons per week during the previous year. The shipments of copper ore were slightly greater in quantity, but were of much additional value, 16,824 tons worth 225,683*l.*, as compared with 16,176 tons worth 184,677*l.*; an increase of 648 tons in quantity, but of 41,006*l.* in value. The shipments of lead and lead ores also increased very considerably. Of the former, 1,351 cwts. were sent away in place of 82 cwts.; and of the latter, 648 tons against 86 tons in 1865. The value of the two in 1866 was 14,309*l.*, as compared with 1,640*l.* in the year previous.

During the past ten years considerably more than five millions sterling (5,368,097*l.*) has been introduced into South Australia in exchange for our mineral productions, finding employment for a great number of its population. In the first half of that period the exports amounted to 2,141,848*l.*, or averaging 428,370*l.* yearly; and in the last five years to 3,226,249*l.*, or an average annual shipment of 645,250*l.* sterling. In 1857 the shipments amounted to 458,839*l.*, in 1861 they were 452,172*l.*, but in 1866 they reached 824,501*l.*

As the value of minerals has fluctuated considerably, the following comparative statement of the quantities of the several ores and metals shipped during the past decade will be found still more clearly to show the great advance of this industry, and its important bearing upon the prosperity of the community.

Period.	Copper.	Lead.	Copper Ore.	Lead Ore.	Regulus.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
In the year 1857	56,893	—	8,036	1,422	79
„ 1861	61,047	1,256	7,817	15	390
„ 1866	129,272	1,351	16,824	648	—
Total in five years 1857–61	287,910	4,341	36,953	2,620	1,102
„ 1862–66	545,434	2,193	49,104	1,849	509
Average of five years, 1857–61	57,582	868	7,390	524	220
„ 1862–66	109,087	438	9,821	370	102

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

From the above it will be seen that the production of fine copper has advanced from 56,893 cwts. in 1857 to 129,272 cwts. last year; the shipment of copper ores also having doubled—16,824 tons as against 8,036 tons. But the whole of this increase has occurred since the discoveries in the Wallaroo and Moonta mining district in 1861. Before that date, the average yearly shipments amounted to 57,582 cwts., or 53 tons per week, since they have averaged 109,087 cwts., or 105 tons per week. The shipments at the close of the decade amounting as above stated to 129,272 cwts., or 125 tons per week.

In addition to the benefits resulting from the employment of labour in the manufacture of fine copper, the amount of shipping engaged in importing coal for the smelting works has been vastly augmented, 82,830 tons being discharged here in 1866, or four times the quantity required five years ago.

Wool.

Considering the great losses the sheep farmer has experienced during the past few years, the augmentation in the quantity of wool shipped in 1866, although smaller than antecedent to the drought, is of an encouraging nature. There was an increase of 5,795 bales, the aggregate number shipped being 61,977, as against 56,182 in the year preceding. The total weight was 20,908,085 lbs., as compared with 18,945,425 lbs. From these amounts the weight of 3,437 bales received in transitu, *via* the Murray, and from Western Australia, has to be deducted in order to arrive at the quantity produced in this Colony; after making such deductions, it appears that the quantity of South Australian wool sent away in 1866 was 58,540 bales, weighing 19,739,523 lbs., or 3,469,633 lbs. more than in 1865, showing an increase of over 20 per cent., and of 10,178 additional bales. The following table shows the shipments from each port during the year ending 31st December 1866 and two preceding years:—

Year ended 31st December.						1864.	1865.	1866.
						lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
From Port Adelaide	-	-	-	-	-	8,472,298	9,734,297	12,164,497
Port Wakefield	-	-	-	-	-	1,774,300	1,908,678	3,374,226
Port Robe	-	-	-	-	-	2,077,300	1,892,460	1,539,500
Port Augusta	-	-	-	-	-	2,990,403	998,315	857,188
Port MacDonnell	-	-	-	-	-	771,656	1,217,013	1,423,919
Port Wallaroo	-	-	-	-	-	—	137,007	—
Port Elliot	-	-	-	-	-	6,138	—	—
Port Victor	-	-	-	-	-	—	382,120	113,400
Port Caroline	-	-	-	-	-	—	—	266,793
Total export of South Australian wool						16,092,095	16,269,890	19,739,523
Produce of other Colonies						1,404,456	2,675,535	1,168,562
Total shipment (lbs.)						17,496,551	18,945,425	20,908,085
Total shipment (bales)						50,946	56,182	61,977
						£	£	£
Total value of South Australian wool						775,656	821,482	990,173
Total value of other wool						73,469	152,915	74,313
Total value						849,125	974,397	1,064,486

The declared value of the South Australian wool amounted to 990,173*l.*, to which 74,313*l.* must be added for the produce of other Colonies, making the total shipments worth over one million sterling. The wool of this Colony shipped in 1865 was valued at 821,482*l.*, and that of the preceding year at 775,656*l.*

In order to ascertain accurately the yearly progress of the pastoral interest, it is necessary, however, to remember that the shipment of wool is at its height at the close of the year, and it is often a matter of accident as to which year the export is credited. The comparison of clip with clip is best made from returns showing the shipments from July to June in each year, which are accordingly appended:—

Year ended 30th June.	SOUTH AUSTRALIA.				
	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Port Adelaide - - -	7,550,428	10,112,815	10,381,539	9,277,556	11,448,696
Port Wakefield - - -	2,282,400	—	1,833,800	2,981,078	2,301,826
Port Robe - - -	1,488,400	1,816,300	1,760,400	1,736,460	1,639,400
Port MacDonnell - - -	55,395	541,380	1,014,850	800,790	1,468,772
Port Wallaroo - - -	43,500	65,000	—	77,507	—
Port Augusta - - -	2,798,673	4,294,400	2,206,325	998,315	857,188
Port Victor or Port Elliot - -	—	6,138	294,000	179,800	—
Port Caroline - - -	—	—	—	72,383	289,229
Total weight (lbs.) -	14,218,796	16,836,033	17,490,914	16,123,889	18,005,111

Although useful, as giving a general idea, the figures in the above table do not show the actual production of wool in the vicinity of the port named, as it must be understood that in each case the shipments to other countries direct from the particular port only are given, the shipments coastwise not being included. When a vessel is laid on at any outport, and departs for a foreign port, the wool is returned as exported from that particular outport; but when the wool is shipped coastwise to Port Adelaide it is included in the exports from the chief port.

The following figures show the quantity and value of South Australian wool shipped in 1857, 1861, and 1866—the total quantity shipped during the first five years of the decade, and during the second, together with the average shipments for such periods:—

Period.		Quantity.	Value.
		lbs.	£
In the year 1857 - -	-	9,695,203	504,520
" 1861 - -	-	13,164,391	623,007
" 1866 - -	-	19,739,523	990,173
Total in five years, 1857-61 -	-	51,862,905	2,606,705
" 1862-66 -	-	80,897,304	3,938,516
Average of five years, 1857-61		10,372,581	521,341
" 1862-66		16,179,461	787,703

It is gratifying to find that in 1866 we shipped 19,739,523 lbs. of wool, worth 990,173*l.*, as compared with 13,164,391 lbs., worth 623,007*l.*, in 1861, and 9,695,203 lbs., worth 504,520*l.*, in 1857; showing an increase of 50 per cent. in each quinquennial period, notwithstanding that the latter five years has included the severest drought known in this Province.

Shipping.

The deficiency in the quantity of breadstuffs for export naturally affected the amount of shipping employed during 1866, but although the number of vessels arriving and departing was reduced one-sixth, the aggregate tonnage was not very much below that of 1865, a larger class of vessels having been employed than heretofore.

In 1864 617 vessels entered at ports in South Australia of 160,095 tons; in 1865 619 vessels of 183,102 tons; and in 1866 524 vessels of 169,439 tons; showing a decrease upon the preceding year of 95 vessels and 13,663 tons. The principal decrease was in the arrivals from Victoria, amounting to 59 vessels and 17,230 tons.

From Great Britain the arrivals numbered ten less, being 59 instead of 69, the tonnage, however, being nearly the same, 40,379 and 42,074 tons respectively. The following statement gives the number and tonnage of vessels entered inwards from each country during the past three years:—

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

Ships Inwards.			Countries.	Tonnage.		
1864.	1865.	1866.		1864.	1865.	1866.
59	69	59	Great Britain - - - -	29,948	42,074	40,379
260	280	171	Victoria - - - - -	56,111	58,199	40,969
175	152	178	New South Wales - - -	45,535	43,022	58,796
49	73	46	Tasmania - - - - -	5,684	8,690	5,692
3	3	5	Queensland - - - - -	571	356	1,762
17	29	20	Western Australia - -	5,246	8,940	6,726
15	12	8	New Zealand - - - -	3,234	2,515	1,620
3	4	3	Cape of Good Hope - -	1,028	1,837	794
1	3	1	India and Singapore -	472	718	793
15	17	15	Mauritius - - - - -	3,370	3,746	3,381
1	—	—	Bourbon - - - - -	369	—	—
1	—	—	Hong Kong - - - - -	216	—	—
—	3	1	Vancouver Island - -	—	1,276	327
7	8	5	Sweden - - - - -	3,671	4,257	2,816
1	1	2	Hamburg - - - - -	188	160	518
7	11	7	United States - - - -	3,788	6,484	4,173
—	1	—	Batavia - - - - -	—	289	—
3	3	3	China - - - - -	664	539	693
617	619	524	Total inwards - - - -	160,095	183,102	169,439

Of the above-mentioned 524 vessels, all but seven, of 1,430 tonnage, arrived with cargoes; and all but 21 were British vessels. The total number of the crews amounted to 7,881, or 1,160 less than last year. In addition to the above, 51 vessels were entered from New South Wales, engaged in the River Murray trade, the total capacity being 3,985 tons, and the crews numbering 334 men. During the previous season only 36 vessels entered at Murray Ports, or 15 fewer than last year.

With regard to shipping outwards it is important to note that although the clearances were fewer in number by 86, the total tonnage was only 3,756 less, the falling off being chiefly in the intercolonial trade.

In 1865 the departures numbered 601, of 174,188 tons; in 1864 they had been 619, of 161,293 tons; and in 1866 they amounted to 515 vessels, of 170,432 tons. The sub-joined tabular statement shows the number of vessels departing to each country during the past three years:

Ships Outward.			Countries.	Tonnage.		
1864.	1865.	1866.		1864.	1865.	1866.
22	34	30	Great Britain - - - -	11,677	17,867	22,097
279	248	215	Victoria - - - - -	59,473	62,402	50,184
139	136	133	New South Wales - - -	38,008	39,092	49,655
21	37	13	Tasmania - - - - -	2,617	4,629	1,365
60	36	28	New Zealand - - - - -	14,119	7,706	6,211
20	22	22	Queensland - - - - -	3,662	3,751	5,264
19	27	25	Western Australia - -	6,063	8,469	8,464
8	6	6	Mauritius - - - - -	1,904	1,517	1,495
2	—	—	Bourbon - - - - -	375	—	—
21	23	12	India - - - - -	12,188	12,692	8,554
2	2	1	Cape of Good Hope - -	560	237	183
6	4	1	Batavia - - - - -	2,210	2,104	575
1	—	—	Brazils - - - - -	281	—	—
6	12	15	Chili - - - - -	3,045	5,437	9,808
—	—	1	United States - - - -	—	—	281
3	2	2	China - - - - -	895	1,389	1,296
10	12	11	Guam - - - - -	3,856	6,896	5,000
619	601	515	Total outwards - - - -	161,293	174,188	170,432

It will be seen that the tonnage entered outwards for Great Britain was greater than in 1865, 22,097 tons as against 17,867 tons, although the number of vessels was less by four, being 30 only. The average tonnage of ships sailing for England in 1866 was, therefore, 736 tons, and in 1865, 525 tons, showing a marked improvement in the class of vessels engaged.

The following return, showing the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared

from each port during the past two years, exclusive of coasters, will be found useful, as indicating the amount of foreign trade done with the several outports:—

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

Inwards.				Name of Port.	Outwards.			
1865.		1866.			1865.		1866.	
Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
444	147,025	352	124,473	Port Adelaide - - -	409	133,623	318	120,047
7	1,981	3	1,080	„ Robe - - -	3	898	3	1,080
55	8,957	60	9,608	„ MacDonnell - - -	53	8,727	61	9,708
9	1,652	6	687	„ Yankalilla - - -	11	1,750	9	1,326
16	2,190	4	697	„ Willunga - - -	35	6,142	21	3,532
55	16,685	83	29,966	„ Wallaroo - - -	59	18,067	82	30,414
11	1,699	1	793	„ Augusta - - -	3	665	1	633
22	2,913	15	2,135	„ Victor - - -	28	4,316	20	3,692
619	183,102	524	169,439	River Murray - - -	601	174,188	515	170,432
36	4,536	51	3,985		39	4,620	52	4,196
655	187,638	575	173,424	Total - - -	640	178,808	567	174,628

The most noticeable feature in the above statement is the great increase in the Wallaroo shipping, 83 vessels, principally coal laden, of 29,966 tons, arriving in 1866, as compared with 55, of 16,685 tons capacity, in the previous year. More than one-half of the tonnage from this port left in ballast. The shipping entered outwards at Port Wallaroo in 1866 was just one-fourth in number and tonnage of the departures from Port Adelaide.

The number of vessels registered as belonging to Port Adelaide is 126, of 16,521 tons, an addition of 13 over the previous year. Fifteen vessels were built during the twelve months, the total tonnage being 948 tons; 25 vessels were registered, and 12 registers were cancelled.

Land, Cultivation, and Live Stock.

The following extracts from my eighth annual report on the agricultural statistics (year ended 31st March 1867) bring this subject down to the latest date:—

"During the past year 214,431 acres of country and suburban land were added to the area alienated from the Crown, a reduction of 102,045 acres on the quantity disposed of by the Government during the preceding twelve months. The total area of purchased land in the occupation of lease or freeholders on the 31st of December last was 3,424,721 acres, or 20 acres per head of the estimated population; or at the same rate as existed at the date of the census, nine months previous.

"Nearly two-thirds, or 2,161,694 acres, of the total alienated lands is occupied by freeholders, showing an increase of 191,105 acres upon the preceding year. A large proportion of the remaining 1,263,027 acres of purchased land is held under leases, with right of or covenant to purchase, or is rented in conjunction with freehold property.

"In compliance with the wishes of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on Preparation of Returns of last session, I have endeavoured to obtain data for the compilation of tables showing the number, extent, and average area of the several holdings under specified classes for each district of the Province.

"Excluding areas of 500 acres and upwards, the holdings are divided into eight classes, and show a total number of 10,687, with an aggregate extent of 1,303,865 acres, the average size of each holding being 122 acres. No distinction has been drawn as to the nature of the tenure, in some instances it being freehold, in others freehold and rented land in combination, and in many leasehold only.

"From the following abstract relating to the whole Province—and similar information can be extracted from the returns for each district council and county were it necessary—it appears that the largest class of holders are those farming from 100 to 200 acres, their number being 2,713, or 25·4 per cent. of the whole body, and their holdings averaging 144·6 acres. The next most numerous class are the farmers of from 50 to 100 acres, of whom there are 2,214, whose farms average 76·4 acres each, and who form 20·7 per cent. of the whole body. Next come 1,715 holders of farms varying from 200 to 350 acres each, forming 16 per cent. of the total occupiers, and with an average of 259·4

acres to each holding. There are 601 occupiers of farms of 350 to 500 acres extent, the average being 412·8 acres to each occupier of this class, who represent 5·6 per cent. of the whole.

“ The above-mentioned four classes include very nearly the great bulk of the agriculturists, and, as will be seen, more than two-thirds of the whole body. There must however be added the holders of areas of 500 acres and upwards in the solely agricultural counties of Adelaide, Gawler, Light, and Hindmarch, numbering 523 with an average area of 1,187 acres.

“ It must also be borne in mind that out of the total number of holders, 10,687, no fewer than 1,188 are occupying plots averaging only 2·6 acres, 992 occupiers averaging 8·5 acres, 609 occupiers averaging 20·6 acres, and 655 occupiers with an average of 38·2 acres each ; or together 3,444 holders, being one-third of the total number. A large proportion of these holdings is under cultivation as gardens, orchards, and vineyards, or is merely fenced pasture. Holdings of one acre and under are excluded from these returns.

“ The following table gives the particulars referred to:—

Class.	No. of Holdings.	Extent.	Average Area.	Per cent. of Total Holders.	Per cent. of Total Area.
More than 1 and under 5 acres -	1,188	3,114	2·6	11·1	0·24
“ 5 “ 15 “ -	992	8,408	8·5	9·3	0·65
“ 15 “ 30 “ -	609	12,577	20·6	5·7	0·96
“ 30 “ 50 “ -	655	25,031	38·2	6·2	1·92
“ 50 “ 100 “ -	2,214	169,110	76·4	20·7	12·97
“ 100 “ 200 “ -	2,713	392,492	144·6	25·4	30·10
“ 200 “ 350 “ -	1,715	445,017	259·4	16·0	34·13
“ 350 “ 500 “ -	601	248,116	412·8	5·6	19·03
	10,687	1,303,865	122·0	100·0	100·00

“ Large areas of land have been enclosed for agricultural purposes during the year ; but the very large increase shown under the head ‘ Enclosed Land ’ is mainly due to the continued fencing of country devoted to sheep pasture, especially in the south-eastern district. The total area enclosed, 4,539,089 acres, exceeds the area sold by the Crown by 1,114,368 acres, or one-third, representing approximately the extent of fenced runs ; whilst deducting the cultivated land from the total area enclosed leaves 3,799,375 acres of fenced land available for depasturage.

“ The increase in the area of land brought under cultivation was slightly above the additional quantity shown during the previous year, being 79,145 acres and 72,794 acres respectively. The total quantity of ploughed land was 739,714 acres as compared with 660,569 acres in 1865-6, showing an addition of 12 per cent.

“ The ratio of cultivated to untillied land continues as one to four 20 per cent., or one in every five acres of purchased land, being under the plough, notwithstanding the large areas disposed of during the past few years. Tillage has increased more rapidly than population, there being 4·37 acres cultivated for each member of the community ; or 13 acres for each male of 14 years of age and upwards ; being one acre more per head than last season.

“ The proportion of land under wheat, as compared with the total tillage, was the same as in the previous year, viz., 62 per cent. Two and three-quarter acres of wheat were sown to each head of the population, or one-quarter of an acre more than last year. The increase in acreage, as compared with the previous season, amounted to 47,020 acres, or 11½ per cent., the total area under wheat in 1866 being 457,628 acres as against 410,608 acres in 1865. The rate of increase in the past season was more than twice as great as that shown in the year preceding.

“ Following upon the very poor harvest of 1865-6, when the average yield was only 8 bushels 44 lbs. per acre, the average produce of the wheat crop of the past season appears large, it reaching 14 bushels 20 lbs. per acre, or an increase of 5 bushels 36 lbs. to the acre. The yield, nevertheless, was but two and one-third bushels above the average of the past eight seasons, which included two years of dearth. Still it was the most prolific yet recorded. In judging of the relative productiveness of the soil of South Australia as compared with that of other countries, it must be borne in mind that a great portion of the land has been sown with wheat for many successive years ; and being in the hands of small proprietors has received only the minimum of cultivation, and has been planted with this cereal in many instances only because of its cheapness in cost of pro-

duction and gathering, and often irrespective of soil or climate. This, of course, tends to reduce the average for the whole Colony; but there are very many districts where farming is carried on on a large scale and with appropriate appliances, where the yield of this cereal is from five to ten bushels above the average shown by the returns.

"The total produce of the crop amounted to 6,561,451 bushels, an increase of 2,973,651 bushels, or 83 per cent., on that of the preceding season. It has been mentioned that the increase in the breadth of land reaped was $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., so that this bountiful addition to our cereal product resulted from the favourable season. The following table gives the total area of land under cultivation, the acreage under wheat, the gross produce of the harvest, and the average yield per acre for each of the past nine seasons:—

Season.	Acres cultivated.	Acres under Wheat.	Produce, Wheat.	Average per Acre.
			Bushels.	B. lbs.
1858-9 - -	264,462	188,703	2,109,544	11 11
1859-60 - -	361,884	218,216	2,103,411	9 38
1860-1 - -	428,816	273,672	3,576,593	13 4
1861-2 - -	486,667	310,636	3,410,756	10 59
1862-3 - -	494,511	320,160	3,841,824	12 0
1863-4 - -	555,968	335,758	4,691,919	14 0
1864-5 - -	587,775	390,836	4,252,949	11 0
1865-6 - -	660,569	410,608	3,587,800	8 44
1866-7 - -	739,714	457,628	6,561,451	14 20

"The total quantity of hay sown was 111,339 acres, or 9,343 acres more than in 1865-6. The aggregate produce was 147,159 tons as compared with 88,731 tons, an increase of 58,428 tons, or 66 per cent.

"There was a large increase in the breadth of land sown with barley and oats as compared with last season, although the total area under these cereals is comparatively trifling; and it seems a matter for consideration whether or not great advantages would not result from their more general cultivation. Of barley 11,723 acres were sown as against 9,362 acres, showing an increase of 2,361 acres. The total yield of grain was 235,941 bushels as compared with 130,679 bushels last year; the average for the two seasons being 20 bushels 6 lbs. and 13 bushels 48 lbs. respectively. The quantity of oats reaped was 87,143 bushels off 3,909 acres—an increase of 44,501 bushels and 1,037 acres over the previous year. The average yield was 22 bushels 12 lbs., or 7 bushels 18 lbs. per acre more than in 1865-6.

"The acreage under potatoes last season was only 2,526, or 249 acres less than in 1865-6. The produce amounted to 6,045 tons, or 1,222 more than in the previous year.

"The cultivation of peas is increasing rapidly, the area sown amounting to 1,853 acres as compared with 969 acres last year, or 884 acres additional.

"Permanent artificial grasses show a large increase, but their cultivation is almost entirely confined to the south-eastern district. Lucerne is more generally distributed. Of the former 5,027 acres were grown, and of the latter 1,306 acres. The increase upon the two was 1,501 acres. Other minor crops show a considerable decrease, the total acreage being only 1,918 acres, or 2,098 acres less than last year.

"Owing to the comparison being made with the year in which the census was taken, when returns are collected from every small occupier as well as from farmers, there is an apparent falling off in the area of gardens, orchards, and vineyards, which together amounted only to 4,753 acres as compared with 5,329, or a decrease of 576 acres, being nearly the amount of increase shown in last year's return.

"The decrease in the extent of vineyards is also equivalent to the increase exhibited last year, the total area being 6,361 as against 6,629 acres, or 268 acres less. The number of vines returned is also less from the same cause, the total number being 7,005,383, or 356,480 fewer; of these 5,698,609 were in bearing and 1,306,774 unproductive. The diminution in the latter is probably also partly owing to the smaller attention now devoted to this husbandry, owing to its at present unfavourable prospects.

"In view of the exceedingly dry season, the decreased production of the vintage of 1866, although general throughout the Province, is not so great as might have been anticipated, whilst the wine is understood to have been of a superior character. The quantity of wine made was 734,983 gallons as compared with 839,979 gallons, or 104,996

SOUTH
AUSTRALIA.

gallons less than in 1865. An ordinary vintage would thus give five gallons of wine for each man, woman, and child in the Province. The quantity of grapes returned as sold or otherwise disposed of than in wine-making was 29,467 cwt. (1,500 tons), slightly below the quantity specified in the previous season.

"The whole Colony shows an increase of 132,302 sheep as compared with a decrease in the previous season of 326,922; the total number being 3,911,610 against 3,779,308 last year. The increase therefore only amounted to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; that of 1864 was $13\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

"Again a large diminution appears in the number of cattle, although not so great as in the previous year; the decrease in 1867 being 34,237 head, or 12,598 short of the deficiency in 1866. The rate of decrease, however, is only two per cent. lower, being 21 per cent. during the twelve months. The total number depasturing is 123,820 as compared with 158,057 head in 1866, and 204,892 head in 1865.

"Ten years ago we counted 310,460 head of great cattle, equivalent to three for each individual of the population; at present there is but three-fourths of a beast. In 1864 we only imported 400 head of fat cattle; now our requirements necessitate the purchase of between 6,000 and 7,000 yearly, chiefly from the Darling Runs."

Railways.

The railway returns exhibit a great deficiency in the goods traffic, owing to the failure in the wheat crops, the carriage of cereals being the principal source of revenue. There was a slight increase in the number of passengers, but a small decrease in receipts from that source.

The total number of passengers conveyed on both lines was 405,502, as compared with 402,550 in 1865. The total goods traffic amounted to 208,984 tons, or a decrease of no less than 52,199 tons, or one-fifth. Subjoined is a statement of the gross receipts and expenditure in each branch during the past three years:—

	1864.	1865.	1866.	1864.	1865.	1866.
GROSS RECEIPTS.				£	£	£
Number of passengers - - -	359,035	402,550	405,502	—	—	—
Passenger receipts - - -	-	-	-	32,274	37,016	36,183
Tons of goods - - -	255,928	261,183	208,984	—	—	—
Goods receipts - - -	-	-	-	94,405	93,574	75,247
Other receipts - - -	-	-	-	2,567	2,690	2,701
Total Receipts	-	-	-£	129,246	133,280	114,131
GROSS EXPENDITURE.						
Management - - -	-	-	-	1,540	1,375	1,735
Locomotive department - - -	-	-	-	19,366	18,824	16,150
Maintenance of line - - -	-	-	-	22,358	22,334	24,161
Other working expenses (including goods agency) - - -	-	-	-	56,328	71,936	61,923
Total Expenditure	-	-	+ £	99,593	114,469	103,979

It will be observed that the gross receipts amounted to 114,131*l.*, or 19,149*l.* less than in 1865, nearly the whole deficiency being in the goods branch.

Main Roads.

The Central Board of Main Roads during 1866 constructed 67 miles of main road, making the total length of main lines metalled and completed at the close of the year to be 416 miles, of which 319 miles have been constructed during the past ten years. The length metalled during the previous year was 54 miles, showing an increase of 13. Only about one-fourth of the total length of the declared main lines is as yet constructed. The aggregate expenditure during the ten years was 876,634*l.*, all of which was provided out of the general revenue, and, of course, includes cost of maintenance. The amount expended in 1866 was 169,201*l.*, as compared with 111,129*l.* during the previous year.

The municipalities and district councils having charge of the branch and district roads do not furnish any return as to the extent of their works, but the amount returned

by them as spent upon works of public improvement during 1866 was 70,886*l.*, one moiety being raised by rate and the other being a grant-in-aid from the general revenue.

Postal Communication.

The aggregate number of post offices opened in 1866 was 226, or five more than last year; and the length of mail routes 3,797, in place of 3,337 miles. The extension of postal facilities is more marked in the greater distance travelled by the mails, which increased from 790,155 to 809,160 miles. A large increase also appears in the number of letters and newspapers carried, the former having augmented one-fourth during the last three years, as shown by the following figures:—

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Number of letters - - - -	2,189,474	2,444,207	2,703,105
Number of newspapers - - -	1,457,914	1,760,415	1,968,120
Distance travelled by mails - - -	733,526	790,155	809,160
	£	£	£
Income - - - - -	22,001	25,023	27,987
Expenditure - - - - -	21,485	23,417	27,062

Exclusive of the ocean mail service, the cost of which is not included above, the income of the Post Office has exceeded the expenditure during the past three years, notwithstanding the extension of its business to very distant and sparsely peopled localities. The advantages of the money-order system are freely offered in connexion with this and the telegraph department; offices being open throughout the Province corresponding with those in the neighbouring Colonies, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.

Telegraphs.

Very considerable extension appears in the operation of the telegraph, no less than 13 new stations being opened during the course of the year; the length of wire being extended by 392 miles. At the close of the year there were 58 telegraph offices open in South Australia; the length of line opened was 1,075 miles, and of wire erected 1,565 miles; the whole having been constructed since 1856, and bringing us into instantaneous communication with almost every town of importance in the neighbouring Colonies.

The number of messages transmitted was 121,153—an increase of 8,809; the total receipts amounting to 12,413*l.*, as compared with 11,735*l.* in the year preceding. A decrease appears in the amount of intercolonial business, but it was more than compensated for by the additional receipts on the local lines, especially those traversing the northern and south-eastern districts of the Province.

Conclusion.

In concluding this report, I would beg of those having little time for consideration of statistical details simply to refer to the concluding table, showing a bird's-eye view of the progress of South Australia since its foundation as a British Province down to the close of the thirtieth year of its existence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BOOTHBY,
Assistant Secretary and Government Statist.

WESTERN
AUSTRALIA.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 20.

No. 20.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor HAMPTON to the Right Hon. the Earl of
CARNARVON.

(No. 36.)

Government House, Perth,
February 20, 1867.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Blue Book of Western Australia for the year 1866, forwarded to me by the Colonial Secretary with the accompanying letter, and showing, beyond all doubt, a steady advancement in the prosperous condition of the Colony, which it has been my pleasing duty to notice in transmitting similar documents for preceding years.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.(Signed) J. S. HAMPTON.
Governor.Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
February 18, 1867.

SIR,

HEREWITH I have the honour to forward, for transmission to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Western Australian Blue Book for the past year.

Revenue and expenditure. 1. The estimated revenue for the year (including the grant-in-aid for the Governor's salary, and for magistracy and police) was 76,059*l.*; the actual revenue was 89,382*l.*, being 13,323*l.* in excess of the estimate and 11,440*l.* above that received in 1865. The increase arose from large importations of goods subject to ad valorem duty, of spirits, and tobacco. The sales of land show also an addition of 1,385*l.*, and the extended occupation of Crown lands under lease has swelled that item by 2,428*l.*

The estimated expenditure was 76,059*l.*, the actual expenditure amounted to 84,652*l.*, or 8,593*l.* in excess of the estimate, and 9,667*l.* beyond that in 1865. It is, however, satisfactory to observe that though the expenditure has thus increased it has been kept considerably within the amount of revenue received, and that a balance of some thousands of pounds was available at the end of the year.

The increase of expenditure was caused partly by the payment of persons employed in the survey, customs, police, and judicial departments, principally in connexion with the extended territory on the north-west coast, and by some 4,000*l.* expended on useful works throughout the Colony.

Public debt. 2. The Colony is now free from debt, the debentures due to the Bishop of Perth, amounting to 1,750*l.* having been paid off during 1866; and in this respect Western Australia may now bear happy comparison with her sister Colonies.

Public works. 3. A large sum of money has been expended during the year in public works, especially on the roads and bridges throughout the Colony; this money, added to the convict labour which has been fairly distributed in all parts of the Colony (with the exception of the north district), has caused the accomplishment of very many useful works which it would hardly have been practicable to undertake had the money or the labour alone been available.

Bridges have been erected in various parts of the Colony lately occupied, the existing roads have been kept in good order, and new tracks cleared; the completion of the bridges over the Swan at Fremantle, and other works of a similar nature at Perth and Guildford, have afforded great satisfaction to the Colonists generally, and will be standing memorials of the advantages the Colony has derived from convict labour.

Legislation. 4. A review of the proceedings of the Legislative Council during the last session calls for little remark, the ordinances passed being generally of a routine nature. The question of an amendment in the constitution of that Council still excites considerable interest, and the decision of Her Majesty's Government is awaited with anxiety.

Population. 5. The addition to the population during the past year is 805, making a total number of 21,065 persons in the Colony of whom nearly two-thirds are males. The demand for female servants is on the increase, those imported being quickly absorbed by marriage. The question of the importation of labour after the expiration of the present year is one

requiring very careful consideration, and of paramount importance to the Colony; any stoppage, however short, in the periodical supply of labour would be fraught with very serious inconvenience to the Colonists, and it is to be hoped arrangements may be made for a regular supply of free immigrants, both male and female, immediately on the cessation of transportation.

6. It is gratifying to observe that the interest evinced in the Post Office Savings Bank has in no way decreased, the number of depositors having increased from 965 to 1,304, and the aggregate sum deposited now amounting to upwards of 12,000*l*. The sum required for interest is met by that accruing from the portion of the deposits invested on mortgage, and the working of the banks is carried on with very little clerical assistance beyond what would be otherwise necessary. In connexion with this subject it may be mentioned, that during the past year branches of the National Bank of Australasia have been established in Perth and elsewhere, and that the competition in banking has, among other good results, caused interest to be granted on sums deposited in private banks, though without, as might have been anticipated, in any way affecting the Post Office Savings Bank.

WESTERN
AUSTRALIA.Savings
Bank.

7. The imports for 1866 have exceeded those of 1865 by no less a sum than 83,494*l*. An increase may be seen under nearly every head, and the amount of goods imported for household use and in the way of haberdashery has so increased as to lead to a belief that the storekeepers must have a very large stock of goods on hand, which may probably reduce the importations of the present year. Live stock to the extent of 8,000*l*. has been brought from the Eastern Colonies.

Imports and
exports.

The exports on the other hand have decreased by a sum of 16,173*l*., the value of exports being less, of horses, by 3,000*l*.; flour, 6,000*l*.; timber, 9,000*l*.; and wool, 9,000*l*. The export of sandal wood has, however, increased by 10,000*l*.

The drought of 1865-6 affecting the grain crops caused a less export of flour during 1866, and also a decrease in the return of wool; the reduction of amount on these articles is quite exceptional.

8. A steady annual increase is observable in the tonnage entered at and cleared out of the various ports in the Colony, as also in the amount of land under cultivation. The drought of 1865-6, though by no means so severe as in the Eastern Colonies, caused the loss of much stock, and the returns of cattle show a less number by nearly 4,000. The number of sheep has increased from 445,044 to 481,040, but this is greatly to be attributed to the importation of sheep from the neighbouring Colonies and their increase. Future years will show large increases under this head.

Shipping,
cultivation,
stock, &c.

9. The settlement on the north-west coast is progressing steadily; the country appears to be admirably adapted for stock of all kinds, the increase from which is in excess of that from other parts.

New settle-
ment on
north-west
coast.

Considerable attention is attracted to this settlement from all parts of Australia, and now that the necessary staff of officers are on the spot, and a town has been established, there is every reason to believe that its future progress will be rapid and satisfactory.

It is much to be desired that better means of communication existed between Port Walcott and head quarters, and that the exertions of those interested in procuring steam vessels may be successful.

The report of Mr. Hooley, who travelled overland from Champion Bay to Port Walcott with stock, both as to the practicability of the journey and the nature of the intervening country, has done much to connect the interests of these two portions of the Colony, and to lessen the expense attendant on the commencement of operations at Port Walcott.

10. The sale of land during 1866 has slightly exceeded that in 1865, but as a large number of the Class B. leases of 1851 fall in during the current year, the purchase of land by those desirous of retaining their runs will be greatly increased during the ensuing twelve months.

Land.

The amount of land under lease during the same time has increased by 3,175,576 acres, and there is every reason to believe that this acreage will go on steadily increasing. The amount of land under lease has very nearly quadrupled during the past ten years.

11. The number of cases tried before the Supreme Court in 1866 is slightly in excess of the previous year, but there is nothing in any of the cases calling for special remark. The number of summary convictions is less by 210, and, though large, is for the most part composed of offences of a very trifling nature.

Crime.

In conclusion, I may observe, that the financial state of the Colony is very satisfactory, that the revenue is steadily on the increase, that every interest is progressing, and though there are those who look forward with anxiety to the stoppage of transportation,

WESTERN
AUSTRALIA.

and the effect such a measure must have upon the finances of the Colony, there is every reasonable hope that the many sources of wealth now opening up in various ways, may, with fostering care, prevent that stagnation which would inevitably occur if, in the absence of such openings, the convict expenditure and labour were to cease.

I have, &c.

To his Excellency Governor Hampton,
&c. &c. &c.

FRED. P. BARLEE.

NEW
ZEALAND.

No. 21.

NEW ZEALAND.

No. 21.

(Not received.)

MEDITERRANEAN POSSESSIONS.

GIBRALTAR.

No. 22

GIBRALTAR.

No. 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-General Sir R. AIREY to the Right Hon. Lieutenant-General J. PEEL, M.P.

(No. 30.)

SIR,

Gibraltar, February 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for 1866, the accuracy of which has been certified by the Colonial Secretary.

The revenue for the year was 34,744*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* sterling, and the expenditure 30,422*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* sterling, the excess of revenue over expenditure 4,321*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* sterling.

In pages 28 to 31 are seen the increase and decrease on various sources of revenue from the preceding year.

The principal items upon which an increase has been derived are,—

	£	s.	d.
Duty on wines - - - - -	537	4	10
Rent of wine houses - - - - -	398	19	11
Auction fees - - - - -	691	17	7
Port department - - - - -	259	6	5
Fees, Supreme Court - - - - -	327	19	3

The only item showing any marked decrease is that on duty on spirits, viz., 271*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*

This decrease is accounted for by the fact that in 1865 a very large stock of spirits was laid in by dealers, in anticipation of the increased duties authorized in August of that year.

The quantity laid in was so large that the revenue on this item was augmented by 1,086*l.* sterling over that of the previous year.

The increase of revenue on duty on spirits in 1866 over 1864, amounting, however, to 815*l.* sterling, I consider to be a fair criterion of the probable annual increment to the revenue on this head, owing to the altered scale of duties sanctioned in 1865.

The resident population, according to a census taken in 1860, amounted to 15,462, and is exclusive of the military, the convicts, and aliens on temporary permits, varying from three days to a year.

The number of births among the resident population was 484, marriages 176, and deaths 316.

Among alien strangers and non-residents the deaths were 29.

Among the military there were 144 births, 17 marriages, and 50 deaths.

Under the head of miscellaneous returns are inserted the number of cases heard and disposed of in the various courts of law in Gibraltar.

The schools are nine in number, in which are educated 1,060 boys and 907 girls; besides these there are seven regimental schools, in which are instructed 242 boys and 224 girls.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD AIREY,

The Right Hon. Lieut.-Gen. J. Peel, M.P.,

Lieut.-Gen. Commanding and Governor.

&c.

&c.

&c.

MALTA.

No. 23.

MALTA.

No. 23.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Administrator of the Government to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 59.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Palace, Valletta, May 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Malta for the year 1866.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JNO. GRANT, Lt.-General,
Administrator of the Government.His Grace the Right Honourable the Duke
of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c.

&c.

&c.

HELIGOLAND AND FALKLAND ISLANDS.

HELIGOLAND.

HELIGOLAND.

No. 24.

No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor MAXSE to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

MY LORD DUKE,

Heligoland, August 31, 1867.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit to your Grace the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

The delay in forwarding the same arose from my desire that the revenue should present a favourable appearance as regards the question of taxation.

I deeply regret, however, to state that the very moderate taxes voted for the year 1866 have not as yet been paid.

Notwithstanding this, however, the public debt has been again reduced by the comparatively large sum of 760*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, which is an increase of 159*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* on the reduction of last year.

I regret to say that we have not been enabled to work the oyster-bank during the year 1866, but I trust that the Island will be enabled in the course of next year to come to some advantageous arrangement on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FITZ MAXSE,
Br. Lieut.-Col.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

FALKLANDS.

No. 25.

No. 25.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor ROBINSON to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 57.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Falkland Islands, July 3, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Falkland Islands for the year 1866.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue collected in the Colony amounted to 1,186*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*, and exceeded that of 1865 by 53*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*

3. The parliamentary grant in aid of the revenue for the financial year ended the 31st March last was 5,875*l.*

4. The expenditure of last year (7,125*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*) was 971*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* less than that of 1865.

5. It is not, I hope, unreasonable to anticipate that this Colony, improving as it is in many important respects, will eventually provide by local taxation for the maintenance of a modest establishment, and cease to be a burden on the mother country. But that time has not yet come, and until pastoral occupation shall have spread over a larger surface of the country than is at present taken up, and until the population shall have increased in proportion, we must look to the Imperial Parliament for a continuance of the assistance heretofore so liberally extended to us—assistance which none can grudge or regret, considering the great saving of life and property from shipwreck to which our occupation of these Islands has been already subservient.

Imports and Exports.

6. These tables are satisfactory. The imports, valued at 21,445*l.*, exceeded those of 1865 by 6,405*l.* The exports amounted to 21,480*l.*, being an increase of 4,165*l.* as compared with 1865.

*Shipping.*FALKLAND
ISLANDS.
—

7. The shipping returns, too, are very gratifying. During 1865, 15 vessels visited the port for repairs, 24 for water and provisions, and 31 for the ordinary purposes of trade; showing an increase of 12,699 tons over the tonnage of 1865.

8. The resort of shipping to these Islands forming one of our chief sources of prosperity, I beg to subjoin an extract from a letter recently addressed to me by Rear Admiral Hastings, expressing approval of the arrangements of the port with respect to the coaling and provisioning of vessels calling here for stores or refreshments. On the 25th February last Admiral Hastings wrote:—

“ Having called at the Falkland Islands in Her Majesty's ship ‘Zealous,’ on my way to the Pacific, it affords me great pleasure to inform your Excellency that Messrs. J. M. Dean and Son supplied the ship with 408 tons of good coal in less than 16 working hours, and that I have found every facility at Port Stanley in obtaining all supplies and provisions.

“ I consider that any ship bound to the Pacific would find it advantageous to call at the Falkland Islands to obtain any supplies which may be required.”

9. I trust that the publication of this letter will tend to a more general recognition of the great value of this harbour as a port of call for vessels trading round the Horn, and so be of service to the Colony.

Labour Market.

10. As the business of the port increases so does the demand for all kinds of garden produce; but the high price of labour keeps back the cultivation of the soil and places the employer at the mercy of the employed. Unskilled workmen will not take less than 5s. a day, and at times their wages rise to extravagant rates. A short time since the following notice was published by one of the local merchants:—

“ Labourers wanted to discharge pig iron from the condemned ship ‘Orange Nassau,’ wages, 15s. a day.” Very indifferent female servants earn from 20*l.* to 35*l.* per annum. Men servants command from 48*l.* to 60*l.*

At the same time it is desirable to remark that the demand for labour is somewhat uncertain. It fluctuates in proportion to the number of casualties at sea in the neighbourhood of the Islands.

Population.

11. In 1862, the population of the Colony amounted to 624. In 1864, the date of the last census, it was as under:—

Males	-	-	-	-	397
Females	-	-	-	-	212
Aliens (male and female)	-	-	-	-	53
Total					662

But it must be borne in mind that this is not an agricultural country, and that our scanty and slowly increasing population bears no comparison to the trade and maritime importance of the Colony.

Education.

12. The only school in the Colony, with the exception of the Colonial Chaplain's Sunday class, is the Government school in Stanley. I am happy to say that the inhabitants generally are fully alive to the necessity of procuring for their children the best instruction which the place affords, and that consequently the attendance at the Government school is very good. The system of education is strictly secular, and great care is taken not to wound the scruples of such of the scholars as do not belong to the Established Church.

The Protestant children receive religious instruction from the Colonial Chaplain on Wednesdays and Fridays, not in the school-room, but in an adjoining chapel; and by this means, the school is rendered available for children of all denominations.

13. It is satisfactory to feel that a sound and sufficient education is within reach of every child in the settlement.

Crime.

14. The chief magistrate reports that "of the 16 persons committed during the year 1866, only three belonged to the Colony; all the rest belonged to English and foreign merchant vessels calling at this port."

Sheep farming.

15. I am happy to report that the business of sheep farming promises to advance with rapid strides. The bulk of the available land on the East Falkland is already in the hands of private individuals, and I am now about to open the West Falkland to intending settlers.

16. These Islands contain about 4,160,000 acres, and (assuming that cattle farming will eventually give way to the more lucrative and suitable occupation of sheep farming) are capable of carrying at least 1,040,000 sheep.

17. The average weight of the Falkland Island fleece is 7 lbs., and the wool which we send home is worth 10*d.* per pound, unwashed. At this rate 1,040,000 sheep would yield annually 7,280,000 lbs. of wool, the value of which would be over 300,000*l.*

18. With this prospect before us, I think I am justified in looking forward to the time (ante, paragraph 5,) when the Colony will "cease to be a burden on the mother country."

19. I beg to append a copy of the regulations for the disposal of the Crown Lands on the West Falkland, recently adopted by the Governor in Council in pursuance of the instructions contained in Lord Carnarvon's Despatch, No. 25, of the 5th January last.

I also forward a letter from the Surveyor General, who visited the West Falkland at my request in the month of April for the purpose of collecting certain information of which I stood in need respecting the wild cattle on that Island and the general character of the country.

General Remarks.

20. The climate of the Falklands, though disagreeable on account of the high winds that usually prevail, is exceedingly healthy. In summer the wind rises in the morning, blows hard during the middle of the day, and falls away in the afternoon. On a calm day the sun has considerable power, but at other times the heat is neutralized by the strong keen wind; and it is only here and there in sheltered nooks that grain can be ripened or European flowers brought to any degree of perfection. There are several beautiful flowers indigenous to the Islands; but, with one or two exceptions, these all creep and blossom on the ground; and the only approach to a tree is the Falkland Islands box, a species of veronica which grows to a height of perhaps three feet, and affords no protection either to man or beast. The natural conformation of the ground is good, but owing to the want of timber, and to the sombre colour of the grass, the general appearance of the country is extremely barren and desolate.

21. In winter the weather is, happily, less boisterous than in summer. Were this not so, the cold from May to September would be almost unendurable.

22. European vegetables thrive exceedingly well. The Falkland Islands Improvement Society (a society recently formed for the encouragement of market gardening), held its first meeting in April last. I never saw, in any part of the world, finer potatoes, turnips, cauliflowers, &c., than were then exhibited. Every house in Stanley has its plot of garden ground attached, and, owing to the number of vessels that call here during the year, the cottagers find a ready and profitable sale for their surplus produce.

23. Rabbits abound in various parts of the Islands, and wild geese and water fowl are everywhere plentiful. The harbours swarm with excellent fish, and trout are found in the rivers of the interior.

24. With high wages and food in abundance, the settlers, it is almost superfluous to say, are prosperous and contented. Poverty and distress are unknown, sickness rarely visits the Colony, the people are loyal, the laws are respected, and harmony and good feeling prevail amongst all classes of society.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 25.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.Enclosure 1 in
No. 25.

A PROCLAMATION.

William Robinson, Governor.

L.S.

By his Excellency William Cleaver Francis Robinson, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Falkland Islands and their Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

WHEREAS it is desirable to amend the Land Proclamation of the 4th April 1861, so far as regards the unoccupied Lands of the Crown on the West Falkland and Islands adjacent thereto:

It is hereby notified for general information that the following are the terms and conditions on which from and after this date those lands as aforesaid will be granted.

The disposal of the unoccupied lands of the Crown on the East Falkland will continue to be regulated, as heretofore, by the Proclamation of the 4th April 1861.

1. Any person may on application to the Governor, and on payment at the rate of (5*l.*) five pounds per 6,000 acres, obtain a licence to occupy a station on the West Falkland Island or the Islands adjacent thereto.

2. Every such licence will be given in writing and be for one year only and not renewable, and will be subject to such conditions and regulations as may be prescribed by the Governor.

3. The extent of each station will be determined by the Governor, the boundaries thereof by the Surveyor General with the approval of the Governor.

4. At any time before the expiration of the licence the licensee may obtain a lease of his station for 20 years at a rental of (10*l.*) ten pounds a year for each 6,000 acres, provided he proves to the satisfaction of the Governor, that he has built on the land a house of wood or stone walls not less than 24 feet by 12 feet and 6 feet high, and has stocked his land in the proportion of at least 50 cattle or horses or 100 sheep to each 6,000 acres.

5. It will be a condition of the lease that, during its continuance, the station shall be kept stocked with at least the number of stock before specified, and also be occupied by the lessee or any person in his employment, and in case of any failure in this condition, it shall be lawful for the Governor to resume possession of the station.

6. The lessee of any station must within five years from the date of his lease purchase a portion of his leasehold land in one or more blocks as may be most convenient, in the proportion of 160 acres to each 6,000 acres; such land to be purchased at the upset price of land for the time being, not exceeding (8*s.*) eight shillings per acre. And the lessee may at any time during his lease purchase any further quantity of land in his station at the same rate of payment.

7. If the lessee of any station under this Proclamation shall be desirous of obtaining an extension of his lease he shall give notice thereof to the Governor six months before the expiration of his lease, and the Governor shall, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, determine whether it is expedient that the land shall be sold or reserved for any public purpose. If the land be not required for sale or otherwise, then the Governor may grant to the lessee an extension of his lease for such time and on such terms and conditions as to rent and occupation as the Governor and Council for the time being may determine.

8. Every lease under this Proclamation shall be transferable, subject only to the condition of giving notice of such transfer to the Colonial Secretary.

9. The rent of each station shall be paid by the lessee to the Colonial Secretary at Stanley, yearly in advance, from the day of the grant of the lease, and if delay be made in such payment the Colonial Secretary shall, within two months after the rent is due, send notice, thereof to the lessee (if in Stanley), and if the rent be not paid within one month after such notice or (if the lessee be not resident in Stanley) if the rent be not paid within six months after it is due, the lease shall be null and void, and the Governor may resume possession of the station without making to the former lessee any compensation.

10. No licence shall be granted to occupy any station within six miles, by land, of any township which may hereafter be proclaimed.

11. Every lease shall confer the right to use the land for pastoral purposes, and shall be subject to all such reservations as may be prescribed by the Governor and as are contained in the printed Crown grants of land in this Colony; and the Governor shall have power at any time to proclaim a public road through any station.

12. Every station shall be defined with reference to the nautical chart of the Colony without requiring any further survey.

Adopted this 24th day of June 1867, by his Excellency the Governor in Council.

H. BYNG,
Acting Colonial Secretary and Clerk of Councils.

Enclosure 2 in No. 25.

Enclosure 2 in
No. 25.

SIR,

Stanley, June 20, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency, that, in accordance with your instructions I embarked on board the "Foam" on the 17th of April last, and proceeded to the West Falklands, where I arrived on the 20th, and landed at White Rock Harbour, not venturing into Manybranch as the winds were adverse. I examined the locality of White Rock, and estimate the probable number of cattle there and towards Tamar Harbour to be about 700. Round the coast the camp is dry, and

FAKLAND
ISLANDS.

I should say well adapted for sheep farming ; on the higher ground the grass is of a white, long, coarse nature, not a fattening description, and only valuable as a winter food when the shorter and more nourishing grasses are covered with snow.

On the 21st, I proceeded from White Rock Harbour in a south-west direction for about 24 miles skirting Manybranch Harbour and leaving the Six Hills to the right ; the whole of this district is good for sheep, dry and well sheltered. All round Manybranch, as far as the eye could reach, herds of wild cattle were to be seen, and taking line from Port Howard to the head of the Warrah River, I estimate their numbers to be about 3,000.

Beyond the first stream running westward (which is a branch of the Warrah) the camp has been burnt, in consequence of which I did not see so many animals as about Manybranch, at the same time I notice a change in the character of the country, the hills are more abrupt, the streams more frequent, and the long white grass takes the place of the shorter and more succulent ones.

The tracks of wild cattle are very deep and much worn, showing the animals frequent this district more in the winter than the summer.

On the 23rd, owing to the snow and our horses being tired, did not move camp ; but I examined as well as I could the locality of our tent, which was under Mount Edgeworth, and on the bank of the Warrah, which river is of a considerable size even here. The cattle are not so numerous as they are to the north-east, but of a much finer breed, the cows being much larger and better shaped ; my not seeing so many was owing I think to the unsettled state of the weather, and their having most likely taken shelter in the deep valleys.

On the 24th, my time being limited to one more day only, I returned to White Rock (where I left the "Foam" undergoing repairs) by a different track, more to the northward, skirting the Mount Edgeworth range and following the river till it joins the sea, thence round Port Purvis ; in the neighbourhood there appears to be a great number of cattle, about 2,000 ; but I do not think they cross the Mount Edgeworth range of hills into the country about Byron Sound, and from what I can hear they have not as yet reached beyond Hill Gap. Therefore from what I have seen and heard I should estimate the total number of wild animals on the West Falklands to be about 5,000.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR BAILEY.
Surveyor-General.

His Excellency Governor Robinson, Commander-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

LONDON :

Printed by GEORGE E. EYEE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODS,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

R E P O R T S

SHOWING THE

PRESENT STATE OF HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

TRANSMITTED WITH THE BLUE BOOKS
For the Year 1866.



PART III. EASTERN COLONIES.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
April 1868.



L O N D O N :
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

SCHEDULE.

PART III.

No. in Series.	Colony.	Page.
1.	CEYLON - - - - -	3
2.	HONG KONG - - - - -	19
3.	LABUAN - - - - -	39
4.	STRAITS SETTLEMENTS (not received) - - - - -	40
5.	MAURITIUS - - - - -	41
6.	SEYCHELLES - - - - -	54

CEYLON.

CEYLON.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON, to His Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 210.)

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
September 14, 1867.

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1866.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue of last year, as shown by these returns, is apparently less than that of 1865 by 15,619*l.*, the revenue of 1866 being 962,873*l.*, whilst that of the preceding year amounted to 978,492*l.* But this decrease is more than accounted for by the transfer last year from general revenue to the newly established municipalities of Colombo and Kandy of taxes to the amount of about 21,000*l.* If these receipts had been retained, the revenue of last year would have exceeded that of 1865 by about 5,000*l.*, and again have been the largest ever raised in the Island. And notwithstanding the withdrawal of these items from the general account it will be seen that the revenue of last year exceeded that of 1864 by 95,145*l.*, and that of 1863 by 10,083*l.*, although in the last-mentioned year there was a pearl fishery which yielded the sum of 51,017*l.*

3. The comparative statement of the revenue for the years 1865 and 1866, which will be found at pages 52 and 53 of the Blue Book, shows a falling off in 1866 under the following heads. In the Customs the decrease on imports amounts to 18,693*l.*, and was owing to the great scarcity of grain which prevailed in the producing districts in India, causing a considerable diminution in the importation of that article. Under the head of land sales the decrease amounts to 6,382*l.* on waste lands, and 1,831*l.* on cinnamon gardens—the effect of the depressed state of the money market in Europe. In the item of toll rents, the decrease, amounting to 16,232*l.*, is mainly owing to the transfer of the tolls within the gravets of Colombo and Kandy to the municipalities of those towns. The same reason, viz., the transfer to the municipalities of the receipts from licences for carriers and carriages, and of the assessment tax for the maintenance of the police, caused a reduction of 2,424*l.* under the head of licences, and of 3,727*l.* under the head of taxes. There is a decrease of 1,044*l.* in the item of Government vessels, there having been no receipts in 1866 under this head, owing to the sale of the colonial steamer “Pearl.”

4. On the other hand, an increase in the receipts of 1866 over those of 1865 is shown in the same return under several heads. The scarcity of rice last year raised the value of paddy grown in the island, enhancing the price of that article, and causing an increase in that item of 5,727*l.* Under the head of licences there is an increase of 11,115*l.* in the item of arrack, rum, and toddy, owing to the higher prices realized by the sale of arrack rents generally, and an apparent increase of 4,044*l.* in the retail of salt in the Northern Province, the difference arising from the circumstance of the rent of 1865 having been collected in aumany; that is, the retail of the article being conducted by Government officers, instead of through the renters, in consequence of which the sums realized by the sale of salt, were brought to credit under another head, that of “sale of Government property.” There is an increase of 3,862*l.* in the item of electric telegraph, the result of the more extensive use of the telegraph. Under the head of miscellaneous there is an increase of 2,315*l.*, being the premium on the insurance of the steamer “Pearl,” which was brought to account as revenue last year on the sale of that vessel.

5. The total ordinary expenditure of the year amounted to 917,669*l.* The excess of revenue over expenditure was therefore 45,204*l.* In addition to the above sum of 917,669*l.* there was a further expenditure of 40,323*l.* in 1866 for public works, which was charged against the balances of former years.

CEYLON.

6. As compared with the expenditure of the preceding year, that of 1866, shows an increase of 79,476*l*. Under the head of establishments there is an increase of 14,861*l*., caused chiefly by the increase of the staff of the Civil Engineer's and Surveyor General's Departments, and by the reorganization of the police. The heavy works undertaken in 1866 caused an increase of 33,138*l*. under the head of roads, streets, and bridges. The head miscellaneous shows an increase of 12,234*l*., caused chiefly by the large expenditure incurred in the survey of temple lands.

Assets and Liabilities.

7. The statement of assets and liabilities furnished by the Auditor General shows that at the commencement of the current year (1867) the assets of the colony amounted to 565,780*l*., and the liabilities to 400,513*l*., leaving an excess of assets over liabilities of 165,267*l*. Amongst the assets, however, appears a sum of 78,500*l*. as revenue outstanding on 31st December 1866, of which only 46,500*l*. is considered to be recoverable. If from the assets be deducted the whole of the revenue, surcharges, and advances outstanding at the close of the last year, amounting in the aggregate to 82,329*l*., the result will agree with the statement which accompanied my Despatch No. 83. of 14th April last, by which it was shown that the net available unappropriated cash balance of the colony at the commencement of the current year was 82,939*l*.

8. Appended to the Auditor's statement is a memorandum of railway liabilities amounting to 671,829*l*. on account of debentures sold in England, and interest due thereon. As provision has been made to meet these charges from special funds, they are not included in the ordinary statement of liabilities.

Military Expenditure.

9. The total expenditure incurred by the Colony in 1866 on account of its military defence was 136,520*l*., in which is included the colonial contribution of 100,000*l*. The amount of imperial expenditure incurred in Ceylon was 95,990*l*., being less by 4,010*l*. than the colonial contribution.

Imports and Exports.

10. The Customs returns show that there was an increase of 218,673*l*. in the value of goods imported in 1866, as compared with 1865, and an increase of 1,092*l*. on the exports, the value being

<i>Imports.</i>					
1865	-	-	-	-	£3,298,511
1866	-	-	-	-	3,517,184
<i>Exports.</i>					
1865	-	-	-	-	£3,069,155
1866	-	-	-	-	3,070,247

11. These figures do not include the specie imported and exported. Adding these, the total value of the imports and exports of 1866, as compared with those of the preceding year, stands thus :—

<i>Imports.</i>					
1865	-	-	-	-	£5,022,179
1866	-	-	-	-	4,961,061
<i>Exports.</i>					
1865	-	-	-	-	£3,565,157
1866	-	-	-	-	3,586,453

12. The total value of goods, exclusive of specie, imported and retained in the Colony during 1866, amounted to 3,140,767*l*., viz. :—

Imports, exclusive of specie	-	-	-	£3,517,184
Deduct imports exported	-	-	-	376,417
Goods retained	-	-	-	<u>£3,140,767</u>

13. The total value of specie imported and retained in the Island during 1866 amounted to 927,671*l.*, viz. :—

Specie imported	£1,443,877
Do. exported	516,206
Specie retained	<u>£927,671</u>

14. The total value, therefore, of goods and specie imported and retained in the Island during 1866 amounted to 4,068,438*l.*, as follows :—

Goods retained	£3,140,767
Specie do.	927,671
Goods and specie retained	<u>£4,068,438</u>

15. The total value of Ceylon produce exported in 1866, as given in the Blue Book, amounts to 2,693,830*l.*, viz. :—

Exports, exclusive of specie	£3,070,247
Deduct imports exported	376,417
Ceylon produce	<u>£2,693,830</u>

16. But this is merely the supposed valuation of the exports as taken in the Island for official purposes, and is little more than the cost of production. It is therefore calculated to mislead, as it must be apparent that the Colony could not steadily year after year, as it is made to appear to do in the Blue Book returns, import and retain goods and specie so far in excess of the value of the Island produce exported. I have, therefore, caused a calculation to be made of the probable value realised in the markets to which they were consigned, by the articles of Ceylon produce and manufacture exported during 1866, by which the amount is estimated at over 4,220,000*l.* If this calculation be adopted, it will be seen that the gross value of the imports and exports of last year amounted to 10,073,684*l.*, as follows :—

Goods imported	£3,517,184
Specie do.	1,443,877
	<u>4,961,061</u>
Island produce exported	4,220,000
Imports do.	376,417
Specie do.	516,206
	<u>5,112,623</u>
Gross imports and exports	<u>£10,073,684</u>

And that the goods and specie imported and retained, added to the value of the Island produce exported, amounted to 8,288,438*l.*, as follows :—

Goods and specie imported and retained	£4,068,438
Island produce exported	4,220,000
	<u>£8,288,438</u>

17. An examination of the details of the returns will show that in imports there was a considerable decrease on rice, the importation of which from British India in 1866 was bushels 3,777,320, against bushels 4,851,413 in 1865. The great falling off in the importations took place in the months of May and June 1866, when the quantity imported averaged only 60,000 bushels a month, whereas the usual average was about 300,000 bushels. The falling-off continued for some months afterwards, and the stock of rice in the market at one time was so low that considerable apprehensions of a famine were entertained by the public, and some slight disturbances occurred in a few of the principal towns, owing to the scarcity of the article and the high price demanded for it. Order was, however, soon restored, by the measures taken by the Government. To avoid entering into competition in the local market with private purchasers, the Government procured a large quantity of rice from Bombay for the use of the troops, the pioneers, the gaols, and hospitals. Active measures were also taken by the mercantile

CEYLON.

community, who obtained considerable supplies of rice from different quarters, so that there was an adequate stock of the grain in the market towards the end of the year.

18. There was an increase in the imports from the United Kingdom in the following items:—

On cotton goods	-	-	-	-	£329,140
„ twist	-	-	-	-	74,310
„ spirits and cordials	-	-	-	-	18,049
„ arms and ammunition	-	-	-	-	7,934

19. There was also an increase on imports from Mauritius, chiefly on specie, to the amount of 9,287*l*.

From Australia, on specie, 191,568*l*.

From French India, on rice, 11,998*l*.

20. The decrease in the importation of specie from British India was 451,870*l*., and there was also a decrease on specie from Suez of 28,534*l*.

21. The decrease in the value of the trade to the United Kingdom and France is accounted for mainly by the shipments of coffee being cwts. 57,592 and cwts. 12,800 respectively less than in 1865. The value of the trade to British India shows also a decrease of about 40,000*l*., chiefly on the item of rice, as a considerable quantity was sent back there in 1865.

22. The trade to Mauritius, Suez, Gibraltar, French India, Australia, and the United States of America manifests a steady progress, particularly to the last-mentioned country, the value of exports to these countries (chiefly coffee) exceeding by nearly 128,070*l*. that of the previous year.

23. The value of specie exported to British India in 1866 shows also an increase of 20,204*l*. as compared with 1865.

24. The revenue derived from imports and exports in 1866 was 274,220*l*. 19*s*. 2*d*., showing a decrease of 16,870*l*. 7*s*. 0*d*. as compared with that of the preceding year, which amounted to 291,091*l*. 6*s*. 2*d*.

25. The apparent anomaly of an increase in the value of imports and exports in 1866, while there was a decrease in the revenue collected, may be accounted for by the large stock of goods imported in 1866, principally “cotton manufactures, wines and spirits,” remaining in bond at the close of the year. The value of these appears in the return, but the duty on them remains to be collected when the goods are cleared for consumption.

Encl. No. 1.

26. I append to this Despatch a return of Exports of coffee, cinnamon, cocoanut, oil, and coir, for the last ten years;

Encl. No. 2.

Return of the total value of Imports and Exports (including specie and bullion) in the years 1864, 1865, and 1866; and

Encl. No. 3.

A statement of the number and tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared in the same years.

Public Works.

27. I forward the following documents required by Her Majesty's Government, in addition to the Return of Public Works included among the Blue Book Returns.

Encl. No. 4.

not printed.

Estimated Expenditure out of Surplus Funds for 1867.

Encl. No. 5.

not printed.

Analytical Statement of Progress of Public Works borne on the Budget of 1866.

Encl. No. 6.

not printed.

Progress of Expenditure on Surplus Fund Ordinances from 1857 to 1866, and the Estimated Expenditure for 1867.

Encl. No. 7.

Profit and Loss on Works undertaken as remunerative from 1857 to 1867.

Encl. No. 8.

Extract.

28. I inclose also a copy of a Report by the Civil Engineer and Commissioner of Roads on the Progress and Expenditure on Roads, and Receipts from Tolls for the year 1866.

29. From the abstract attached to the Blue Book Return furnished by the Civil Engineer it will be seen that the total expenditure on public works during the past year amounted to 280,098*l*. 1*s*. 4½*d*., viz.:—

Government money	-	-	-	-	£218,342
Commutation money paid in assessment for labour under the Road Ordinance, and private contributions	-	-	-	-	31,272
Cost of establishment	-	-	-	-	30,483

£ 280,097

30. As compared with 1865, the expenditure of 1866 shows an excess of 49,387*l*. that for 1865 being only 230,710*l*.

31. The amount expended on opening new roads was 38,814*l.*, viz., 28,178*l.* Government money; 10,636*l.* private contributions.

CEYLON.

32. The following were some of the principal roads in course of construction last year :—

Western Province.

From Haldumulle to Haputale Pass	- - -	£5,675
From the railway station at Marandahn to the sea-shore road, Kortebon	- - -	3,207

Central Province.

From Rajawelle Gap to Teldenia Bridge	-	4,625
Opening the seventh, eighth, and ninth miles from Dimbula Gap to Nana Oya :—		
Government money	- - -	£2,589
Private contribution	- - -	2,591
	—	5,180
From Katugastotte Bridge to the Kurwnegala road	- - - -	4,506
Extension of the Dotelle road :—		
Government money	- - -	99
Private contribution	- - -	1,901
	—	2,000
From Kallubokke to Cabragella :—		
Government money	- - -	2,174
Private contribution	- - -	559
	—	2,733

33. The amount expended on the repair and upkeep of roads, streets, and canals was 149,987*l.*, viz. :—

Government money	- - - -	£130,681
Road Ordinance funds	- - - -	19,306

34. The cost of the repair of the road from Colombo to Galle, Matara, Tangala, and Hambantota was 10,693*l.*, the receipts from tolls being 8,465*l.* The expenditure on the road from Colombo to Kandy was 23,401*l.*, and the receipts from tolls amounted to 27,634*l.* The lower portion of thirty-six miles from Colombo to the railway station at Ambepusse is no longer a first-class road; and on the opening of the line throughout to Kandy for general traffic it is hoped that the whole of the traffic will be transferred from this road to the railway, which will of course reduce the expenditure on the road, whilst, on the other hand, there will of necessity be a considerable diminution in the receipt from tolls.

35. A sum of 22,219*l.* was expended on the road from Kandy to Badulla through Nuwara-Eliya; and the road is reported by the Civil Engineer to be in the best possible condition. The receipts from tolls on this road in 1866 amounted only to 4,008*l.*

36. The sum expended for new bridges was 14,824*l.*, viz. :—

Government money	- - - -	£14,510
Private contributions	- - - -	314

37. The following were some of the principal bridges in course of construction last year :—

Western Province.

An iron bridge over the Kurugange near Ratnapura	-	£3,991
An iron lattice bridge over the Weyganga at Kahawatte on the road to Rakwana	- - -	5,156

Central Province.

An iron lattice girder bridge over the Badulla Oya	-	£1,777
--	---	--------

38. On the repair of bridges an expenditure of 2,350*l.* was incurred.

39. The expenditure on new buildings amounted to 7,001*l.* The following were some of the most important of the buildings in progress last year :—

Western Province.

Extending the Customs accommodation at Colombo	- -	£625
Do. do. of the Lunatic Asylum at Borella	-	3,438

CEYLON.

Eastern Province.

Quarters at Foul Point for lightkeepers and boatmen - - £893

40. The amount expended on the repair of existing buildings was 7,491*l.*, and on drainage, construction of ferry boats, and general service, 2,105*l.*

41. On miscellaneous services, including the purchase of tools, working of the factory, the purchase of draught cattle, subsistence of elephants, the importation of pioneers and labourers from the continent of India, there was an expenditure of 25,924*l.* In this amount are also included a sum of 3,999*l.* for building retaining walls on the banks of the Kalutara Canal, and a sum of 715*l.* for blowing up and removing stones in the Galle Harbour.

Government Houses at Colombo, Galle, and Kandy.

42. I enclose Reports of the Civil Engineer on the state of these buildings. On the completion of certain repairs now in progress, the Queen's House at Colombo may be said to be in fair order. The Queen's House at Galle is in a good state of repair generally. The Pavilion at Kandy requires a few slight repairs, which will be effected, and the building will then be in good order. I enclose also the Report of the Deputy Commissary General on the condition of the public furniture in these houses. A board of survey has been appointed to report on the furniture in the Pavilion at Kandy, which is stated by the Deputy Commissary General to be very old, and altogether unsuited for the purpose.

Surveying Department.

43. The enclosed Report from the Surveyor General shows a very satisfactory result of the working of his department during the past year.

44. The depressed state of the money market in Europe had a material effect on land sales, especially as respects the purchases made by Europeans; but, notwithstanding this, the receipts of last year contrast favourably with those of previous years.

45. The total number of lots alienated from the Crown in 1866 was 8,230, containing in extent 26,306 acres, and the sum realized was 62,670*l.*, exclusive of fees, which amounted to 9,352*l.* Although the total extent of land disposed of is 14,849 acres less than in 1865, the gross amount realized is greater by 3,745*l.*, the average rate per acre, 2*l.* 10*s.*, being much in excess of the rate of the preceding year.

46. In the Western Province, 5,749 lots, comprising 9,448 acres, were disposed of for 24,005*l.*, or at the rate of 2*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* per acre. The demand for land in this Province appears to be on the increase, and greater attention has been paid to the survey of paddy lands, the natives having, since the late scarcity of rice, evinced a desire to purchase lands suitable for paddy cultivation.

47. In the Central Province 371 lots were sold, containing 8,003 acres, for 13,429*l.*, or at an average of 1*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* an acre.

It was in this Province, especially, in which the purchases were chiefly made by Europeans, that the depressed state of the money market affected the land sales.

48. In the Southern Province, 1,060 lots, comprising 4,214 acres, were disposed of for 14,953*l.*, or at an average of 3*l.* 10*s.* 11½*d.* per acre. The greater portion of the money realized last year by land sales in this Province was obtained by the disposal of paddy lands.

49. The following are the results of the sales in the other Provinces :

—		Lots.	Extent.	Amount realized.	Rate per Acre.		
			Acres.	£	£	s.	d.
North-western Province	-	172	1,068	4,081	3	16	5
Eastern	do.	768	3,418	5,934	1	14	8
Northern	do.	110	156	267	1	14	5

50. Satisfactory progress has also been made in the survey of temple lands, the extent surveyed during the year being 90,174 acres.

51. In addition to the survey of lands for sale, the Surveyor-General's Department was engaged in other work, such as tracing of roads, preparation of plans, &c., which entailed considerable trouble and cost.

Electric Telegraph.

CEYLON.

52. I enclose the Report of the Superintendent of Telegraphs on the working of the lines and offices of the telegraph department for the year 1866. Encl. No. 12.
not printed.

53. The department has not been in a very satisfactory state, as remarked by me in a previous Report, owing to the absence from illness, and the frequent changes of the officer at its head, and to the insufficiency of the staff. Certain suggestions made by Mr. Cappel, the late, and Mr. St. Albin, the present Superintendent, for the reorganization of the departments, have been approved by the Government, and it is hoped that they will have the effect of placing the establishment on a more efficient footing.

54. Serious defalcations in the department, amounting to upwards of 2,000*l.*, were discovered during last year. In one case the late head clerk and a storekeeper were tried and found guilty. Other parties, however, who were also under suspicion, have not as yet been brought to trial, for want of sufficient proof against them.

55. Most of the telegraph lines were reported by the Superintendent to be in an imperfect state; and a sum of 3,200*l.* has been voted in the Supply Bill for the present year to place them in efficient order.

56. The financial results of the department are, however, satisfactory. The total receipts, including those of the Indo-European and the Indian lines, as well as those of Ceylon, were 23,598*l.* Of this, the sum of 8,850*l.* is due to this Government. The Ceylon receipts for 1865 amounted to 8,099*l.* There was, therefore, an increase of 751*l.* in the receipts of 1866, as compared with those of the preceding year. The total expenditure of the department, including repairs of lines, amounted last year to 6,660*l.* The receipts, therefore, show an increase over expenditure of 2,190*l.*

Railway.

57. I enclose Reports from the Director General of the Ceylon Railway for the half years ending 30th June and 31st December 1866. Encl. No. 13.
not printed.

58. Notwithstanding the difficulties caused by the unhealthiness of the district on the banks of the Maha Oya, the work was carried on with energy by the contractor; and the portion of the lines between Ambepusse and Polgahawella was opened on the 1st November 1866, making a total length of 46 miles opened at that date for general traffic.

59. On the 1st of August of this year the line was so far completed as to admit of its being opened for passenger traffic to Kandy, and it is hoped that by the middle of this month it will be opened also for goods traffic.

60. The expenditure incurred on the works during the year was 195,952*l.*, viz., 155,756*l.* in Ceylon, and 40,196*l.* for materials from England.

61. The total value of work done to the 31st December 1866, was 808,931*l.*, leaving a balance of 64,108*l.* to be expended in this year for the completion of the work under the contract.

62. The number of passengers carried during the year 1866 was 124,096.

63. The tonnage of goods carried over the portion of the line open was 12,790.

64. The receipts from passengers and goods traffic amounted to 23,262*l.*

65. The working expenses amounted to 26,295*l.*, showing a loss in working of 3,033*l.*; but deducting from this a sum of 747*l.*, being amount of miscellaneous receipts, the actual loss to revenue was 2,286*l.*

Legislation.

66. Twenty seven Ordinances were enacted in the session of 1866, of which five were passed during the first few days of the present year, it not having been practicable to close the session last year.

Ordinance No. 1. provides for the naturalization of Naylor Dunbar Schultze.

No. 2. provides for the apprehension of pioneer deserters, and for the better protection of Government property entrusted to the charge of pioneers. This Ordinance re-enacted the provisions of the Ordinance No. 23. of 1865, which was disallowed by Her Majesty, without the provision which subjected an offending pioneer to corporal punishment, and which was objected to by the Secretary of State.

No. 3. is an Ordinance enlarging the operation of the Ordinance No. 10. of 1844, which amended the law relative to the distillation of arrack, rum, and toddy. By this latter Ordinance certain restrictions were placed on the distillation of spirits, and regulations were laid down as to the construction of the stores and the dimensions of the stills. Certain

CEYLON.

districts in which distillation had been previously carried on in stills of a smaller size were however excluded from the operation of these provisions. Ordinance No. 3. of 1866 empowers the Governor by Proclamation to introduce these provisions into the districts referred to.

No. 4. enlarges the power of the Surveyor-General to demand the production of deeds, and make surveys of lands, and to facilitate the proof of surveys. Although the Surveyor-General had authority to call for deeds whenever they might be required by him for the purposes of any survey to be made to enable the Crown to take possession of private lands for public uses, there was no law in force giving that officer power to demand the production of deeds for the purpose of determining encroachments, and surveyors have in consequence been molested when engaged in this work. This Ordinance was passed to remedy this defect.

No. 5., to facilitate the recovery of monies due as commutation of the paddy tax and of the performance of labour, provides for the recovery of these claims in the same way that the assessment tax is recovered by the Government agent, or, where there is a municipality, by the municipal council, viz., by distraining, the modes of recovery formerly in force having been found to be troublesome, and to give rise to delay.

No. 6., to compel the registration of old deeds and other instruments of title, was enacted with a view to check the frauds practised by parties in consequence of the absence of adequate provision for the registration of deeds. The provisions of the Ordinances No. 20. of 1824, 7. of 1834, and 7. of 1840, which last came into operation on the 1st February 1840, furnished a check against the production of false deeds; but as this check did not practically exist with reference to deeds executed before 1840, this Ordinance provides for the registration of such deeds.

No. 7., entitled "An Ordinance relating to the Police Force," makes certain formal amendments in Ordinance No. 16. of 1865, suggested by the Secretary of State.

No. 8. provides against the spread of contagious diseases in the Island. It authorizes the Governor, with the advice of his Executive Council, to make rules applicable to cases of anticipated emergency, and to apply those rules to epidemic diseases, whether in man or beast.

Ordinances Nos. 9., 16., and 18. authorize the establishment of tolls on certain roads.

No. 10. authorizes the additional expenditure of 185,000*l.* for the construction of the railway from Colombo to Kandy, and substitutes the 1st January 1868 for the 1st January 1867 as the date at which the construction fund should cease, and the sinking fund commence.

No. 11. empowers the trustees and managers of the Ceylon Savings Bank to grant a pension to Mr. Jacob Piachaud, for his services as actuary of that institution.

Ordinance No. 13., to provide for the construction, up-keep, and repair of branch roads, consolidates the different laws on this subject. It provides also, in cases of an absent proprietor who had no agent, or whose agent was unknown, that notice affixed on the land, and published in the "Government Gazette," shall be deemed notice to the proprietor. As it was found that the provision in the former Ordinances, under which the construction of a new road could not be commenced until the whole of the private contributions had been paid into the treasury, was inapplicable to the repairs of grant-in-aid roads, and as it was also considered unreasonable to call upon proprietors to pay more than what was actually required at a time, it has been left discretionary with the Governor to require the payment by the proprietors of their entire share either in one sum or by instalments.

Ordinance No. 14., relating to Kandyan marriages, requires parties, on registering their marriages under the provisions of the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance of 1859, to state whether the marriage is in Beena or Decga. The former takes place under the old Kandyan law still in force, when the husband goes and lives with his wife on her paternal property, and becomes entitled to her inheritance; the latter, when the wife leaves her parents' house, and lives with her husband, by doing which she forfeits the right to her parental inheritance, excepting in the case of her becoming destitute, when she is entitled to claim maintenance therefrom. The absence of written evidence on this point gave rise to frauds and perjuries, with a view to check which this Ordinance was enacted.

Ordinance No. 15., relating to arbitrations and awards, invests local tribunals with the power of referring questions of accounts of a complicated nature to arbitration, and it enables parties to a reference, by deed or instrument in writing, to cause such reference,

and the award thereon, to be made a rule of court, without resorting to an action based upon the deed.

No. 17. authorizes the destruction of old and useless processes and documents. The accumulation of these documents in the courts of justice was found to be productive of great inconvenience; and as it is not necessary to retain those specified in the Ordinance after certain periods, the Governor is empowered to appoint parties to destroy them; provision being, however, made for the preservation of any documents which may be considered to be of importance.

Ordinance No. 19. was passed with a view to prevent the wholesale and wanton destruction of fish caused by the use of a peculiar kind of nets introduced by the natives of India and others.

No. 20., amending Ordinance No. 18, of 1844, entitled "An Ordinance for the better Regulation of Prisons," empowers the Governor to make rules from time to time on the subject of prison discipline.

No. 21., relating to the law of partnership, is taken from the English Act, 28 and 29 Vic. cap. 86., by which a person advancing money to another engaged in any trade or undertaking for a share of the profits is declared not to be thereby made a partner; a principle which is further extended to the case of remuneration of agents, and to the case of annuitants. There is this difference, however, between the English Act and the Ceylon Ordinance, that whereas by the former the claim of the person lending is postponed until the claims of other creditors are satisfied, this result by the Ordinance takes place only in respect to profits or interest, the lender being entitled to claim, in concurrence with the other creditors, as respects the principal.

Ordinance No. 22., with a view to assimilating as far as possible the laws of this Island with those of the mother country, extends the introduction into this Colony of the law of England to questions relating to partnerships, joint stock companies, corporations, banks, and banking principals and agents, carriers by land, and life and fire insurance. A previous Ordinance, No. 5. of 1852, introduced here the law of England in maritime matters, and in questions arising out of bills of exchange, promissory notes and cheques.

Ordinance No. 12. makes provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1866; and No. 1. of 1867 provides for the contingent service of the current year.

No. 2. of 1867 authorizes the application of 170,000*l.* of the surplus revenues of past years to works and services of acknowledged public utility; and No. 3. authorizes the appropriation of certain unclaimed balances from the Loan Board for the execution of certain works and services connected with the administration of justice.

Ordinance No. 4. amends and consolidates the law relating to fiscals and their officers. It was introduced in consequence of the unsatisfactory working of the fiscals department, especially the service of processes, a work which had before been performed by a staff of men on the establishment of the several fiscals, who were paid by the Government, but whose salaries will now be defrayed from the fees recovered from suitors. The Ordinance provides that fiscals and their deputies shall give security for the due and faithful execution of their office; and it empowers the Governor to make any portion of the security given by the fiscal available for the payment of any sum which the fiscal may be condemned to pay to any party who may recover damages against him. Like power is also given to the fiscal in respect to the security taken from the deputy fiscals. Whenever satisfactory arrangements for the purpose can be made, fiscals are empowered to divide their districts into divisions, and appoint marshals for each division, to whom will be entrusted the service and execution of processes within their respective divisions. Marshals are also required to give security. The second division of the Ordinance provides for the fees and charges payable by suitors for the execution of processes. The other portions give detailed regulations touching the duties and liabilities of fiscals, the execution of processes, the seizure and sale of property, the mode of disposing of claims to property seized in execution, and the delivery of possession to purchasers.

The object of Ordinance No. 5, relating to the assessment of lands for the maintenance of the police force, is to give a right of appeal against the assessment of properties which may be made under the Municipal Councils Ordinance, if parties are dissatisfied with such assessment.

Population.

67. The total population of all classes of inhabitants for 1866 is stated in the returns to be 2,039,330, showing an excess of 31,338 over the number given in the returns for 1865, viz. 2,007,992.

CEYLON.

68. The following are stated to be the numbers of births, marriages, and deaths, viz. :—

Births	-	-	48,223
Marriages	-	-	18,921
Deaths	-	-	39,125

Public Health.

69. I enclose the Report of the Principal Civil Medical Officer on the state of health in the several hospitals and jails in the Island.

70. Dr. Charsley remarks that the health of the public generally was at a low standard throughout the year, and that cholera prevailed, more or less, in every Province of the Island.

71. Towards the close of 1866, this disease broke out with violence in the Northern Province in an epidemic form, and the mortality from it was so great that I considered it desirable to appoint a commission to visit the place, and report upon the origin and progress of the disease. The report of the commission has been received, and is now under the consideration of the Government.

72. The total number of cases of cholera which occurred in the whole Island was 10,541, and of deaths 5,926. This shows a large increase as, compared with the number of cases reported in 1865, which was 2,727, the number of deaths being only 1,585. In the Northern Province alone the number of cases in 1866 was 9,092, and of deaths 4,988. Of these 7,918 cases occurred in the peninsula of Jaffna, where the number of deaths was 4,246.

73. The following are the numbers in the other Provinces :—

		Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province	-	225	151
North-western	do. -	274	194
Southern	do. -	114	63
Eastern	do. -	51	20
Central	do. -	785	510

In small-pox too there was an increase in 1866 over the cases reported in the previous years, the numbers being,—

1866	-	1,035 cases	-	101 deaths
1865	-	373 do.	-	55 do.

75. The larger number of cases were in Colombo, where there is a small-pox hospital, in which 813 cases occurred, whilst throughout the rest of the Island only 222 cases were reported. It will be observed, however, that the rate of mortality from this disease was not so great in 1866 as in the preceding year, being 9 per cent. in the former, and 14 per cent. in the latter.

76. The efficacy of vaccination in diminishing the fatal results of this disease is proved by the fact that not one death occurred amongst those who bore satisfactory marks of vaccination, and that there were only four deaths among those who bore unsatisfactory marks.

77. The results, however, as to the numbers vaccinated exhibited in the returns are not very favourable, the number in 1866 being 65,496 against 68,289 in 1865, showing a decrease of 2,793, and the successful cases were 47,686 in 1866 and 49,838 in 1865. This decrease is ascribable, in the opinion of the Principal Civil Medical Officer, chiefly to the prevalence of cholera in the Northern Province, and of fever, aggravated by the scarcity of food in some of the other Provinces.

Education.

78. The returns of schools for the year 1866 show that there were 115 public schools in which there were 5,984 pupils. This exhibits, as compared with the previous year, an increase of four schools, and of 603 in the number of pupils, with a proportionate increase of 455 in the average daily attendance.

79. The number of aided schools in 1866 was the same as in the previous year, viz., 17; but there was a decrease of 157 in the number of pupils on the rolls, and of 172 in the average daily attendance.

80. As the greater number of these schools are situated in the Jaffna peninsula, this decrease in the number of scholars is susceptible of explanation by the fact that during the latter part of last year the outbreak of the epidemic, which proved fatal to so many thousands, interfered very materially with the attendance of pupils at the different aided schools.

81. The expenditure by the Government on account of education amounted to 14,875*l.* in 1866, showing an increase of 202*l.* as compared with the expenditure of 1865, which amounted to 14,673. This may be attributed to the increase in the number of schools.

82. The receipts in the shape of fees and sale of stationery show an increase of 176*l.* The former amounted to 2,138*l.*, being an increase, as compared with the receipts from this source in 1865, of 158*l.*, and the latter amounted to 77*l.*, being also an increase of 18*l.*, as compared with the receipts under the same head for 1865. The increase in the fees may be traced to a larger attendance in the schools paying the higher fees.

83. The returns from the different missionary bodies show that there has been a decrease both in the number of schools supported by them and in the number of pupils attending them. The following is an abstract of these schools:—

	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.
Society for the Propagation of the Gospel	44	1,528
Church Missionary Society	32	1,232
Wesleyan do.	105	3,767
Presbyterians	1	18
Baptist Missionary Society	17	416
American do.	68	2,661
Roman Catholic do.	90	4,452
	<u>357</u>	<u>14,074</u>

84. The numbers in 1865 were 419 schools and 14,746 pupils.

85. The number of private schools in 1866 was 210, with an attendance of 4,449. This shows a decrease, as compared with 1865, of 42 schools and 1,527 pupils.

86. I enclose a printed copy of the Twenty-third Report of the School Commission, for the period from the 1st July 1865 to the 30th June 1866, which was laid before Council last session, and which gives a full account of the Government schools up to the middle of last year. Encl. No. 15.

87. I regret to add that a very general impression appears to prevail here amongst thoughtful persons that the efforts of the Government in this direction are in a great measure misdirected, and that the Colony does not derive as much benefit as it might do from the large sum of public money which is annually expended for educational purposes. Mr. Sendall, the able Inspector of Schools, attributes the present inefficient condition of the Government schools to the want of proper training for the teachers; and, in an interesting letter which is attached to the Commissioners' report, and which will well repay perusal, after detailing the unsatisfactory result of his fourth annual examination, he concludes with the following graphic description of the effects upon the Ceylonese youth of the present system of English education, as conducted in the Government schools: "And for this state of things, when once it has been produced, there is then no further remedy. With the old language half forgotten, the new language not nearly half acquired, the time for acquisition now past, unable to apply his native tongue to the development of what precise knowledge he has learnt through the medium of those rags of English to which he yet tenaciously clings,—what is left to the unhappy victim, here of fatal half measures, there of misdirected zeal and mistaken philanthropy, but to lapse into that conceited, magniloquent, hypocritical, cringing, petitioning, honest-work-despising animal, with the like of whom it is not too much to say our English schools, in their present condition, have of late years flooded the country."

88. This, if true, and no one has had a better opportunity of judging than Mr. Sendall, is anything but a gratifying return for a large outlay, and the importance of the question can scarcely be over-rated. I am glad, therefore, to be enabled to state that the whole system of public education has for the last two years been under the careful scrutiny of a committee of the Legislative Council, and that the report may be looked for within a few weeks, so that I trust the approaching session will not be allowed to pass without a careful and comprehensive consideration of the whole subject.

CEYLON.

General Remarks.

89. Prefixed to the Blue Book Returns will be found a table giving a statistical view of the progress of this Colony for the years 1821 to 1866 inclusive, and an abstract of the principal statistical results for the years 1865 and 1866, prepared in the form suggested by the International Statistical Congress at the meeting held in London in 1860. A glance at this return will serve to show the steady improvement of Ceylon for a number of years under almost every head, and that the present prosperity is established upon a solid basis may, I think, be inferred from the manner in which the Colony was enabled to withstand the succession of adverse circumstances by which it was last year assailed. A war in Europe, and a financial crisis of almost unprecedented severity in England and India, caused for a time a considerable depression in the price of coffee, whilst a falling-off in the usual importations of rice, in consequence of the famine in India, enhanced considerably the price of that article in the local market. Notwithstanding these severe tests, there has been no reduction in the revenue, trade has not diminished, and coffee cultivation, the main branch of agricultural enterprise, is being carried on with unabated activity. One great and lasting good too has, I think, resulted from the trials through which the planters have lately passed. The high price of coffee, and the facility of obtaining advances at home under the conditions of an easy money market, had led by degrees to reckless expenditure in the management of estates, which, if it had continued unchecked, must before long have proved fatal to coffee cultivation. The events of last year forced this question upon the consideration of producers, and the necessity for a stricter attention to estate expenditure has been very generally acknowledged and acted on. Now what the Colony is most suffering from is the distrust with which Ceylon estate securities and coffee enterprise generally are viewed at home, and which, considering the extent to which the staple agriculture of the Island is dependent upon home capital, is the cause of considerable embarrassment. This state of things is, however, merely the natural rebound from the over-confidence shown in the years 1863, 1864, and 1865. The rise in the price of cotton consequent on the American war, the high price of coffee in the London market, and the amount of superabundant capital in England, which readily sought so favourable a locality for investment as Ceylon, all tended to throw, during those years, a large amount of capital into the Island. The result in very many cases was, injudicious investment and indiscriminate advances; and when the unsoundness of these transactions was made apparent by the financial pressure of 1866, and when the difficulty of realizing immediately, even in the case of safe investments, was experienced, all Ceylon securities, good and bad alike, were discredited, and viewed with suspicion and distrust. There are, however, no fair grounds, in my opinion, for the extent to which this reactionary feeling has spread, and it must, I feel assured, before long, be considerably moderated. I believe there never was a time when coffee cultivation was more remunerative than it is at present, if only it be judiciously conducted. The high price of the produce in the home market is being steadily maintained, a stricter economy than formerly is exercised in the management of estates, the local labour market, in consequence of the distress upon the neighbouring coast of India, is unusually well supplied, whilst the opening of the railway to the capital of the coffee districts, and the extension of other means of communication, must, by lessening the expense of transport, materially diminish the cost of production. These encouraging circumstances cannot fail before long to produce their legitimate effect, by allaying the unreasoning spirit of distrust which now prevails so extensively at home as regards every description of coffee enterprise. A gradual return of confidence may, therefore, fairly be anticipated, and with it I hope we may look once more for the attraction towards Ceylon of a portion of that surplus European capital upon which the Island is in a great measure dependent for the successful prosecution and extension of one of the most important branches of its productive industry.

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c.

(Signed)

I have, &c.,
HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

CEYLON.

RETURN of Exports of Coffee, Cinnamon, Coconut Oil, and Coir, the Produce of the Colony, for the Years 1865 and 1866.

Years.	Coffee.			Cinnamon.			Coconut Oil.			Coir.			Total Amount of Customs Revenue.
	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export Duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export Duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export Duty received.	Quantity.	Value.	Amount of Export Duty received.	From the foregoing Exports.
1865 -	Cwts.	£	£	lbs.	£	£	Gallons.	£	£	Cwts.	£	£	£
	927,440	2,343,532	46,373	850,973	42,549	852	1,176,784	120,678	2,955	41,378	31,637	516	50,696
1866 -	897,624	2,286,880	44,882	890,484	44,524	890	1,042,853	104,400	2,619	46,687	33,035	594	48,985

Customs, Colombo, 31st May 1867.

(Signed)

J. PARSONS,

Acting Principal Collector.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

TOTAL VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS (including Specie and Bullion) from and to each Country in each of the Years 1864, 1865, and 1866.

Countries.	Imports.			Exports.		
	1864.	1865.	1866.	1864.	1865.	1866.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	1,651,587 1 1	904,255 3 10	1,390,686 12 5	2,015,326 3 3	2,420,056 5 10	2,385,126 9 10
Cape of Good Hope.	348 9 0	103 10 0	—	—	348 9 6	50 0 0
Mauritius -	31,343 3 6	20,633 10 0	29,921 9 6	923 17 0	21,175 16 0	25,735 0 6
Aden -	30 0 0	39 11 5	47 18 10	—	20 2 0	—
British Possessions in India.	2,821,092 14 1	3,486,106 16 10	2,746,439 18 1	957,545 10 1	961,013 6 0	920,577 12 0
Hong Kong -	8,710 19 4	6,064 0 7	9,828 5 1	194 7 0	3,708 10 0	2,108 14 6
Australia -	629,843 13 5	330,841 8 8	520,340 16 1	52,060 9 6	37,048 17 0	41,813 8 3
Gibraltar -	—	—	—	5,124 18 1	14,649 12 0	18,072 12 8
France -	87 0 0	512 17 9	—	8,161 10 5	47,306 5 11	19,039 16 0
Buenos Ayres -	2,813 0 0	4 9 3	198 6 0	—	—	—
Suez -	135,693 15 5	85,007 3 1	74,377 15 6	9,291 15 10	1,076 10 0	73,283 15 7
Maldine Islands	41,880 12 0	31,129 1 6	29,788 17 1	6,740 13 10	6,078 12 5	4,255 9 3
French Possessions in India.	156,550 17 8	136,518 1 8	150,557 11 0	23,076 9 11	12,327 7 5	22,114 19 7
United States of America.	8,273 0 0	12,803 16 1	8,860 0 0	28,481 8 7	—	73,675 7 0
Macao -	593 0 0	1,771 10 4	—	—	—	—
Bolivia -	4,800 0 0	6,035 5 11	—	—	—	—
Peru -	33,515 10 0	—	—	—	—	—
Madeira -	1 7 10	—	—	—	—	—
St. Helena -	—	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Madagascar -	—	347 17 10	—	—	—	—
Muscat -	—	—	12 0 0	—	—	—
Bourbon -	—	—	2 0 0	—	—	—
Dutch Possessions in India.	—	—	—	5,341 12 0	40,347 7 4	600 6 10
	5,526,964 3 4	5,022,179 4 9	4,961,061 9 6	3,112,268 15 6	3,565,157 1 5	3,586,453 12 0

Customs, Colombo, 20th June 1867.

(Signed)

J. PARSONS,

Acting Principal Collector.

CEYLON.

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

NUMBER and TONNAGE of Vessels entered Inwards and cleared Outwards in each of the Years
1864, 1865, and 1866.

	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.					
	1864.		1865.		1866.		1864.		1865.		1866.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Total - -	3,137	523,333	3,289	577,022	3,240	583,303	3,260	547,062	3,326	573,818	3,304	599,022

Custom House, Colombo, 5th June 1867.

(Signed)

J. PARSONS,
Acting Principal Collector.

Enclosure 4.

Estimated Expenditure out of Surplus Funds for 1867.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 5.

Analytical Statement of Progress of Public Works borne on the Budget of 1866.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 6.

Progress of Expenditure on Surplus Fund Ordinances from 1857 to 1866, and the estimated Expenditure for 1867.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 7 in No. 1.

STATEMENT showing the Profit or Loss on Works undertaken as remunerative.

	Expenditure.	Receipts.	Profit.	Loss.
Electric Telegraph - - - - -	82,390	52,774	—	29,616
Survey Department - - - - -	241,399	64,167	—	177,232
Irrigation - - - - -	50,932	23,861	—	27,071
£	374,721	140,802	—	233,919

Audit Office, Colombo, 25th May 1867.

(Signed)

R. CALLANDER,
Auditor General.

Enclosure 8 in No. 1.

Extract from the Report of the Commissioner of Roads, dated 16th April 1867.

"In making this very hurried Report, I am happy in being able to state that I have never seen the roads of the Colony in such high order as they are at present, with large pecuniary means and an abundance of labour. I trust the end of this year will find them as good as could be desired."

Enclosure 9 in No. 1.

Report on the State of Government House.

[Not printed.]

CEYLON.

Enclosure 10 in No. 1.

Report on the Condition of the Public Furniture.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 11 in No. 1.

Report of the Surveyor General.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 12 in No. 1.

Report of the Superintendent of Telegraphs

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 13 in No. 1.

Reports on Railways.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 14 in No. 1.

Report of the Principal Medical Officer.

[Not printed.]

Enclosure 15 in No. 1.

CENTRAL SCHOOL COMMISSION.

Report.

The Central School Commission have the honour to submit to the Legislative Council their Report for the past year (July 1, 1865–June 30, 1866).

2. On the 31st December 1865 there were 103 Government schools in operation, which had on their rolls at that date 5,291 pupils, with an average attendance, during the year, of 4,141. This shows a decrease of 5 schools and an increase of 59 pupils as compared with the year 1864.

3. The percentage of scholars who, at the close of the year 1865, had attended the same Government school for periods varying from less than one year to more than five years, is as follows:

Statistics of education.

Period of attendance.

Less than One Year.	One Year and less than Two Years.	Two Years and less than Three Years.	Three Years and less than Four Years.	Four Years and less than Five Years.	Five Years and upwards.
43·26	22·53	13·06	8·67	5·72	6·74

4. Percentage of children of the different ages from "under five" to "over fifteen" in the different classes of schools.

SCHOOLS.	Under Five Years.	Between Five and Six Years.	Between Six and Seven Years.	Between Seven and Eight Years.	Between Eight and Nine Years.	Between Nine and Ten Years.	Between Ten and Eleven Years.	Between Eleven and Twelve Years.	Between Twelve and Thirteen Years.	Between Thirteen and Fourteen Years.	Between Fourteen and Fifteen Years.	Over Fifteen Years.
Colombo Academy -	—	·36	1·06	·36	1·06	1·83	6·98	4·04	6·98	9·92	17·64	50·00
Superior Schools -	—	—	1·46	1·46	2·43	3·41	6·82	5·85	14·14	12·68	13·17	38·53
English Schools -	—	1·07	2·15	5·89	8·24	9·14	15·05	11·11	13·08	10·93	7·88	15·41
Mixed Schools -	·90	2·65	3·71	6·67	6·52	8·94	9·47	9·24	10·08	9·62	9·93	22·21
Vernacular Schools -	—	1·50	6·75	11·53	15·51	15·23	15·51	9·61	10·03	5·72	4·26	4·30
Superior Girls' Schools -	3·03	5·30	6·44	7·57	10·98	15·15	14·77	11·74	8·33	9·47	4·92	2·27
Mixed Girls' Schools -	5·51	8·27	7·93	16·55	15·51	18·96	11·03	6·55	3·10	4·14	1·72	·69
Vernacular Girls' Schools	·40	6·00	12·80	12·00	13·20	16·40	13·20	13·60	4·80	4·00	1·60	2·00
Total -	·70	2·40	5·33	8·86	10·92	12·13	12·77	9·37	9·66	7·75	6·86	13·23

Decrease of expenditure in 1865 as compared with 1864.

5. The expenditure on account of education during the year 1865 amounted to 14,673*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, showing a decrease of 657*l.* 19*s.* 2½*d.* as compared with 1864 when the expenditure was 15,331*l.* 12*s.* 3½*d.*

Expenditure, 1861-1865.

6. The following table will show the amount voted, and the amount expended, on account of education, during each of the last five years:

Years.	Voted.			Expended.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1861 -	16,475	6	8	14,306	12	2½
1862 -	16,674	6	3	14,099	7	6¾
1863 -	15,306	8	0	14,520	3	7
1864 -	16,298	18	3	15,331	12	3½
1865 -	17,389	3	9	14,673	13	1

Estimate for 1867.

7. The sum of 17,339*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* was voted for the current year, and the educational estimate for 1867 amounts to 17,343*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

School fees.

8. The amount realized by school fees in 1865 was 1,774*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, to which must be added 56*l.* 3*s.* 4½*d.*, being receipts on account of stationery, showing a decrease in the receipts from schools in 1865, as compared with 1864, of 308*l.* 1*s.* 2½*d.*, and as compared with 1862 of 493*l.* 0*s.* 8½*d.*

Grants-in-aid.

9. The amount of grants made to private and other schools during the year 1865 is 803*l.* The Roman Catholic girls' school at Trincomalie has been added to the grant-in-aid schools.

New Schools.

10. Since the date of the last report, the following schools have been opened:—a mixed school at Ratota; a boys' vernacular school at Kandawala; a boys' vernacular school at Hapugahakanda; a boys' vernacular school at Watugoda; a boys' vernacular school at Godapitiya; and a girls' vernacular school at Gelanigama. The following schools have been re-opened:—the Mátara English school, the Kurunégala girls' school, the Puttelama mixed school, and the Kadugannáwa mixed school. The following schools have been closed: the Dambul mixed school, the Gomagoda mixed school, the Trincomalie girls' mixed school, the Passara vernacular boys' school, the Kandy Jail school, the Katukurunda vernacular girls' school; and the following temporarily closed: the Harispattu mixed school, and the Gampola girls' school.

Turnour prize.

11. There were no candidates for the Turnour prize in 1865.

Local examination.

12. The examiner's report of the fourth local examination, held under the Government notification of the 26th November 1861, will be found in the Appendix.

Calcutta University.

13. The result of the last examination at Queen's College and the Colombo Academy in connexion with the University of Calcutta was as follows: of ten students who presented themselves, eight passed in the second division.

Inspection.

14. The Inspector's reports with the accompanying tables give every information as to the state of the central, English, and mixed schools in all the provinces.

Members.

15. The Hon. G. Vane, J. A. Martensz, Esq., and the Rev. J. Scott have been appointed as members of the commission, in the room of the Hon. R. T. Pennefather, deceased, C. A. Lorensz, Esq., and the Rev. R. S. Hardy respectively.

16. The thanks of the commission are due to the sub-committees of Kandy, Galle, and other stations, and to several official and private superintendents, for their valuable aid in reference to the schools in which they have respectively interested themselves.

17. Financial and statistical returns, similar to those appended to the last report, will be found in the Appendices.

W. C. GIBSON,
President.
J. BROOKE H. BAILEY,
Secretary.



HONG KONG.

HONG KONG.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 384.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Government House, Hong Kong, October 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book for the year 1866, and regret that I did not forward it sooner; but great pressure of other business, and the destruction on the 1st instant by a typhoon of a quantity of manuscript papers which I had prepared for the purpose, have compelled me to delay the transmission longer than I had expected. I can now, however, accompany it with full explanations as to the most important points connected with the present position of this Colony, and the incidents affecting it during the period referred to in the enclosed Blue Book.

2. It is impossible, however, that I can forward it without some observations on the transactions and incidents of last year, as they have been specially remarkable in themselves, and will no doubt affect considerably the future of the Colony.

3. I would here premise that the circumstances of this Colony are so entirely exceptional and peculiar that it is difficult for the Executive to derive from the experience of other Colonies, or the precedents established by the practice and traditions of Europe, any adequate system for its government and legislation. Separated in some places by scarcely a mile of water from the mainland, and adjoining the provinces where the most unruly and disorderly population of the Chinese Empire reside, addicted along the seaboard for centuries to systematic piracy, and ready, if the least opening presents itself, to land on this Island in quest of booty to be obtained by force or fraud, the handful of Europeans resident here may be regarded as perpetually on the defence. And thus actual preservation of property and life becomes, under such circumstances, a consideration paramount to many interesting questions which, in England, naturally occupy much of public attention in connexion with the reformation of criminals and the education of the people.

4. It is only necessary, in order to comprehend the exceptional position of Hong Kong, to remember that the whole surface of the Island scarcely occupies 18 square miles, consisting chiefly of hills producing a scanty herbage, and that, except a few small gardens and paddy grounds, agriculture is almost unknown. Whilst, nevertheless, the number of passengers visiting and leaving the city of Victoria alone cannot, as I shall presently show, be estimated at less than 600,000 annually, consisting almost entirely of Chinese, a race the most opposite in their habits, thoughts, and religion to Western nations, and also the most confirmed in their ancient prejudices and customs; added to which is the lingering idea of the superiority of their own ancient but worn-out civilization.

5. The weakness of the Central Chinese Government, and the little control possessed by its officers even over portions of their more immediate districts, is another fertile source of difficulty in the administration of this Government, as the effective aid which might otherwise be looked for in the repression of crime and piracy on the adjoining mainland and its vicinity must not be expected here, though it certainly is withheld from no reluctance, but entirely from a want of power to afford it. A marked improvement even in that respect is now apparent, aided here by repeated remonstrances which I have addressed to the Viceroy of the neighbouring province through Consul Robertson of Canton, who has in all such matters assisted most ably and willingly.

6. I would here desire to guard myself against being supposed, in any of my previous observations, to imply that the Chinese, as a race, are less obedient to law, or less devoted to peaceful and industrial pursuits, than Europeans. The immense number of criminally disposed persons who hover round this place, and against whom the peculiar and special precautions are necessary to which I have alluded, are the refuse of a very large population, numbering 30 millions in the adjoining Quang provinces,

HONG KONG. which, moreover, are fringed along the seaboard in many places with piratical villages inhabited by descendants of a race which, for a long series of centuries, has diversified their ordinary avocations of fishing and tillage with piratical expeditions at certain seasons of the year.

7. These people maintain a number of snake boats and other craft adapted for attacking vessels that approach too close to the shore, or get becalmed and anchor incautiously near the haunts of these pirates. The latter, however, also possess vessels heavily armed and adapted for longer cruises, though the large piratical fleets of former days are now no longer assembled, owing to the efficiency and vigilance of Her Majesty's cruisers, and also to the good faith and increased exertions of the Chinese authorities themselves, who have recently exhibited unmistakable proofs of energy and sincerity in their efforts to co-operate with the cruisers.

8. Your Grace will thus perceive that the existence of great numbers of persons trained from their childhood to robbery is quite compatible with that of a far larger population in the same provinces industrious by nature and early training, and generally trustworthy and obedient to the law. Nevertheless, the criminal class in the neighbourhood is sufficiently numerous for a very small percentage of it, if located in this Colony, to work such mischief as to require unusual precautions against their landing or remaining here, and I think that, at last, the appropriate means of effecting this have been, in a great measure, applied.

9. As dealing with those criminal classes here is one of the most serious responsibilities devolving on the local Government, I propose to advert to some of the leading features of the present system; and, speaking now with increased experience, I venture still to refer to my Despatch No. 160, of November last year, as explaining the only true principles on which, apart from questions affecting European prisoners, it is practicable to keep down crime here, and deter persons from visiting Hong Kong for other than lawful purposes. I pointed out in that Despatch that my predecessor, when advocating the construction of a very large new gaol at Stone Cutter's Island, had dwelt on the extraordinary increase of crime here, as evidenced by the augmented number of prisoners in Victoria Gaol, which had risen in four years from 262 in 1858 to 520 in 1862, and I did not hesitate to attribute that increase mainly to the little deterrent influence of imprisonment in a well-kept gaol with wholesome food, good lodging, and light work; so that, with ample materials in our immediate vicinity for filling such buildings, a third gaol would probably ere long have been required in addition to those already existing. Such a result would appear to have been not at all improbable, because, on the 31st of October 1865, the total number in both gaols had again risen from 520 in 1862 to 876. I have no doubt, therefore, that, unless some change in the system of dealing with prisoners had been adopted, the number now in gaol would probably be nearly 1,100, whereas the existing average of criminal prisoners is now below 500.

10. This extraordinary and satisfactory change has mainly been brought about by four distinct causes:—First, by the operation of Ordinance No. 12 of 1865, by which flogging was added to the punishment of those who, at the time of commission of any crime, were armed with any offensive weapons, or were guilty of violence against the person. This, however, could not of itself have produced the results now attained, because throughout the first eight months of last year there was a very large increase in the number of prisoners over 1865.

11. Secondly, I attribute that result to the gradual improvement in the constitution of the police force, a work of great difficulty and labour, which has been only partially carried out as yet, but which nevertheless has already operated as a principal cause of the less frequent visit to this Colony of criminals from the adjacent provinces on the mainland. I shall presently advert more fully to the organization of the police.

12. Thirdly, the reforms which I have been enabled to effect in the supervision of gaol labour, and the fact, well known to the class whom it principally concerns, that those who are condemned to imprisonment can no longer expect commodious lodging with light labour, but must perform tasks which, though regulated with every due regard to sanitary precautions, are nevertheless sufficiently laborious, has unquestionably deterred numbers from coming here, as of old, to a tempting and productive field for plunder.

13. Fourthly, the most effective means of preventing hardened criminals from returning here is one on which I have had the benefit of many communications from Her Majesty's Government, and which has been specially devised to meet the exceptional exigencies of this Colony; namely, that of allowing certain prisoners who petition, before their sentence expires, for the indulgence to be released conditionally that

they submit to be marked so as to be easily recognized by the police, and that, if they return to the Colony, and are recognized, they are to be at once punished for returning, according to their agreement, and compelled to undergo the remainder of their sentence. HONG KONG.

14. The number of those who petition for the favour of release on such conditions is now sensibly diminished, because enforcement of those conditions, and the risk of discovery on return, have been proved by experience to be real dangers. The effect, however, continues, and the great end which from the first I stated to be my object, namely, to leave the Viceroy of the adjoining provinces to deal there with the criminal classes of those districts, instead of throwing a large portion of them on the hands of the authorities here, has already been in a great measure attained.

15. As from the first I personally had no doubt that by improving the police, and by rendering prison labour really deterrent, as well as by devising means for preventing the continued return to Hong Kong of confirmed criminals, I could greatly diminish the number of prisoners, I took on myself last October the responsibility of closing the convict hulk at Stone Cutters' Island, and abandoning the new and extensive gaol then just completed there; a policy which has been attended with the most gratifying results, not merely in diminishing crime, by bringing all prisoners under a uniform system of surveillance and discipline, but also because the Colony has since had the advantage of economizing the cost of a very expensive establishment, whilst it has likewise recovered the use of the police force formerly stationed at Stone Cutters' Island. Moreover, the labour of the convicts, perfectly useless there, is now available for the roads and public works here, where it is so much needed.

16. It is impossible to estimate the pecuniary gain to the Colony by the change, whether arising directly through diminished outlay for establishments, or indirectly by utilizing the labour of the convicts at less than \$30,000 per annum; whilst at this moment I cannot compute the diminution of crime in the Colony, as compared with March last year, when I arrived, to be less than 30 per cent. The number of persons tried at the sessions up to this period last year was 181, whereas during the current year it has only been 115. In 1863, 1864, 1865, the numbers were respectively 311, 293, 326.

17. In all these reforms no one has contributed more to their efficient success than Mr. Douglas, the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, which is probably the best conducted establishment of the kind in the East. I have, therefore, much satisfaction in bringing that officer's name again to your Grace's notice.

18. In treating of the mode of dealing with the criminal classes here, it is impossible to omit the improvement which has been effected in the energy and "morale" of the police. I do not remember seeing in any Colony a body of men so ineffective in proportion to its number, or so corrupt generally, as the police force which I found here. Its authorized strength then, as now, without counting the naval dockyard police, consisted of 89 Europeans, 377 Indians, chiefly Bombay Sepoys, and 132 Chinese, or a total in round numbers of 600; a force which, so far as numbers go, could in England deal with six times the population of this Island.

19. It must, however, be remembered that in England almost every one is inclined to assist the policeman. Here, on the contrary, in the Chinese quarter of the town, it was possible, till lately, and is even now occasionally so, for a man to be knocked down at noon and robbed in presence of fifty witnesses, without any intervention in his aid, or the least disposition to give information subsequently to the police.

20. What is still more embarrassing is, the facility with which the Chinese submit to extortion, within certain limits; thereby holding out irresistible temptation to members of the police, when so disposed, to levy a species of black mail as well on those who infringe the law as on those who are really guilty of no offence. In this way each new law made for the protection of society and suppression of crime became with the police a new means of extortion, the temptation to double and treble the amount of their regular pay by such practices being too often irresistible. Hence, between the corruption engendered in the police, and the peculiar facility with which the Chinese lent themselves to such improper practices, as well as the little aid comparatively which they otherwise afforded for detection of crime, it is not surprising that the police force, consisting, as it did, of men without any previous special training for their peculiar duties, should, in proportion to its numbers and cost, have long proved a most inefficient protection to the public.

21. In my Despatch No. 183, of last January, I went very fully into details as to the necessary re-organization of the police force; and am enabled now to report a marked improvement consequent on the changes sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government.

22. Dismissals and compulsory resignations of inspectors have left but three remaining of the eleven whom I found on my arrival in March last year. I am sensible, however,

HONG KONG.

that much remains to be done; and, so far from feeling authorized to relax a vigilant supervision of the police, I hope to improve its organization by further reforms, and amongst them by getting rid of a hundred more of the feeble and corrupt constables from Bombay and Madras, and substituting for them an additional body of Sikhs. The success attending the recent introduction of 100 Sikhs from India into the force, under the command of Mr. C. Creigh, has been so decided that I can now see my way to further improvement by the employment of more Sikhs. Such details, however, must form the subject of a separate communication.

23. I cannot, however, omit noticing here that which has all along been at the root of most of the corruption of the police, viz., the regular stipends which many of the officers and men were in the habit of receiving as hush money from the keepers of illicit gaming houses. On that subject I have already reported so fully that I need add little here, except to state, as a matter connected with the history of 1866 now under review, that by Ordinance No. 8. of 1866, re-enacted with some slight changes and omissions as Ordinance No. 9. of the present year, power was given to the Governor in Council to pass rules for the better limitation and control of gambling, the intent being to strike a decisive blow at all illegal gaming, with its peculiarly corrupting and pernicious consequences, by legalizing it in certain houses, licensed on such conditions, and subject to such special surveillance, as the Executive might deem necessary.

24. The great obstacle to carrying this very important reform, which was not attempted till the most strenuous efforts had failed to close the haunts of illegal gamblers and their confederates, arose from inability to discover any stimulus to the good conduct and loyal observance of the Government rules by licencees of such houses so powerful as the payment of fees sufficiently large to render forfeiture of their licences a heavy penalty before recouping the expenditure incurred. To myself especially, and to Her Majesty's Government, the receipt of any revenue from gambling licences is most distasteful. It likewise gives room for imputation of motives which have had no influence whatever in shaping the policy of the Executive, because such revenue is really nothing but the accidental result of a legitimate effort to discharge one of the most evident duties of Government, and to suppress certain haunts of vice and crime, dangerous to society from their secret and illegal nature, dangerous also as the most fertile source of demoralization of the force entrusted with the protection of life and property.

25. My Despatch No. 381 of this month will have apprized your Grace of the great success of the experiment as to the principal object aimed at, viz., suppressing illegal gaming, and terminating the corruption of the police, from that source at least. I was also enabled to report the singularly orderly manner in which the houses themselves are conducted. At the same time your Grace will have been almost equally pleased to learn that I have reasonable grounds for expecting to get rid in a great measure of the revenue from licences which alone complicates and embarrasses this really important measure. The difficulty cannot certainly be insuperable, though, as the whole matter is so novel and experimental, each step at the commencement requires much prudence and caution till further experience shall have justified more rapid action.

26. As your Grace is aware, the reforms of local legislation to meet the exigencies of the Colony in dealing with the criminal classes were not overlooked last year; and of the 12 Ordinances passed last year, several contained unusual provisions, and of so important and wide application as to amount almost to a social revolution of our relations towards the Chinese population.

27. The great evil and the great disgrace of this port for several years before my arrival had been the undoubted fact of its being almost a dépôt for the equipment of piratical craft, the reception of booty, and the transmission of information to parties engaged in those nefarious pursuits. To deal adequately with an evil of such magnitude required a scheme of action at once energetic and comprehensive; and if, in devising and carrying out the measures necessary, there was much responsibility, anxiety, and labour, I cannot but feel that they are well repaid by the satisfactory report which I was enabled to transmit to your Grace on the 11th last July.

28. In contrast with the events of last year, when no less than six foreign vessels were captured in the vicinity of these waters, and many atrocious murders of Europeans perpetrated, I was then enabled to state, and can still report, that since the 1st of last September not one such case has recurred, and that out of 18 cases of piracy reported for the three quarters ended on the 30th of last June, most were comparatively trivial, whilst in 11 a punishment more or less effective had been inflicted on the guilty, and in none was there the slightest evidence to show the least connexion between the pirates and their former principal centre of operation, viz., Hong Kong.

29. On the whole I think there is now reasonable hope that the time is not far distant when we may look forward to being able to give a fatal blow to all piracy in these waters,

by finding it safe to declare, under proper sanction, and with the co-operation of the Chinese Government, that all native craft, unless furnished with special authority from Government, which may be found armed within certain limits, that might afterwards be from time to time extended, shall be liable to seizure, and all on board liable to punishment. I hope soon to bring this matter once more before Her Majesty's Government, with a view to combined action being at last taken, for I see no reason to suppose that the difficulties which may at first embarrass the question will not disappear when fairly grappled with. Many will no doubt be then forced to admit much of the supposed difficulties to have been imaginary, whilst it is certain that whatever portion of them is real will not be overcome by inaction.

30. Reverting now to the action of this Government, I would observe, that although the present diminution in piratical outrages is in part due to the vigilance of the police, and the admirable energy of Commodore Jones, there is no doubt that it has been mainly effected by the legislation of last year, through Ordinances Nos. 6 and 7, by the joint operation of which a thorough knowledge of all Chinese residents here and of all junks visiting this harbour was acquired. In reference to native vessels it was insisted that all should take out licences, if they wished to dispense with the system of passes and permits devised for less frequent visitors, the condition of those licences being, the finding of good security for the legal proceedings of the vessels for which they might be granted.

31. Without encumbering this Report with the numerous details whereby this system was carried out, including a large increase to the harbour master's staff, and the establishment of inspectors and boats at all the different outports, it may suffice to state that the system has been eminently successful, and that I can give the name of every junk and particulars of her armament, cargo, master, and destination that has visited this Island since the first of last January.

32. As no attempt had ever previously been made to ascertain the above particulars about the native craft which frequent the waters of this Colony, and as the reason given was the apparent impossibility of success, this result, contrary to the many opinions against it, is the more gratifying. I may add, that, notwithstanding the novelty of the experiment, there has not been found as yet the least occasion for making any alteration in the Ordinance, a result wholly unexpected by myself.

33. I here annex the last weekly return received yesterday from the Harbour Master, and your Grace will thence perceive that since the beginning of the year no less than 2,356 licences of all sorts have been granted, whilst the total number of documents, including passes, special permits, &c., issued from the harbour department, has amounted to nearly 30,000, and the receipts to over \$20,180 a sum which suffices to meet the increased expenditure necessary for carrying out the details of the Ordinance.

RETURN of LICENCES, &c. issued under Harbour and Coasts Ordinance.

Date 1867.	Junk Licences.		Fishing Licences.		Anchorage Passes.	Special Permits.	Clearances.		Remarks.
	Annual.	Monthly.	Annual.	Monthly.			Day.	Night.	
Total pre- vious Re- turn - }	309	92	1,090	531	8,373	9,284	7,852	145	
October 21	1	—	1	—	39	38	38	—	
" 22	—	—	1	—	39	37	34	—	
" 23	1	—	2	—	46	37	35	1	
" 24	—	—	12	—	38	50	43	—	
" 25	—	—	6	—	47	62	44	—	
" 26	—	—	1	—	34	46	41	—	
" 27	—	—	—	—	24	13	19	—	Sunday.
Total - -	2	—	23	—	267	283	254	1	Total receipts paid into Treasury to 25th inst. \$20,180.
Grand total	311	92	1,113	531	8,640	9,567	8,106	146	

Total documents issued, 29,715.

Hong Kong, 28th October 1867.

(Signed)

H. G. THOMSETT,
Harbour Master, &c.

HONG KONG.

34. Independent, moreover, of the legislation of last year placing the Executive in a position to ascertain the probable movements and real character of all native craft entering and leaving these waters, your Grace will perceive that much collateral information of a highly useful and interesting nature, never before attainable, is now placed within reach of the Government, as to the number of vessels engaged in the native trade, and of their passengers, crews, &c. &c., topics to which I shall presently advert more fully when alluding to the tonnage frequenting this harbour. I must, however, draw attention to the special administrative ability of Mr. Thomsett, the Harbour Master, in grappling with the novel difficulties of the extensive and interesting experiment entrusted him to work out. He has now got all his work thoroughly well in hand, and has exhibited throughout a special fitness for the onerous duties which I was suddenly obliged to impose on him.

35. Supplementary to the above Ordinance for obtaining information as to the movements and character of all native craft in these waters, I introduced Ordinance No. 7. of last year, for the purpose of placing the Executive in possession of the same sort of information as to native householders and residents on shore which Ordinance No. 6. was intended to procure of native proceedings on the water. The working of this Ordinance was entrusted to the Registrar General, Mr. Cecil Smith, who has discharged his difficult duties under it with great ability, and a success which would have been impossible without the knowledge which he possesses of the Chinese language.

36. That Ordinance divides the town of Victoria into districts, and renders compulsory the registration of all Chinese householders, who are, moreover, held ultimately responsible if certain violations of the law specified in Section XVII., and which, with ordinary vigilance, they can prevent, occur on their premises.

37. Considerable powers are given to the Registrar General, enabling him to summon householders and tenants of portions of houses before him, and to insist on their furnishing him with all particulars respecting themselves and their pursuits. All Chinese servants of every degree in the employment of foreigners were likewise obliged to obtain a certificate of registration, specifying for each his or her native domicile, age, and such other particulars as might assist in tracking servants implicated in any offence. In a word, the Ordinance provides means for keeping the Government informed of the character and proceedings of the Chinese residents on land, just as the Junk Ordinance ensures similar information in reference to persons and vessels in colonial waters.

38. It may be interesting here to give the results of last year's legislation, in the number of persons registered as householders (Chinese), and also of servants in the employment of foreigners. The total up to the 30th of last month was

Householders	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,950
Servants	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,033

39. The Ordinance likewise contained some provisions for enabling the Chinese themselves to organize a police force auxiliary to that in Government pay (Sections 12 to 15), and it gives me much pleasure to state that the Chinese have within the last few months organized, at their own expense, and under the immediate surveillance of the Registrar General, a small body of 30 constables, who have already given proofs of alacrity in preventing and detecting crime that contrasts most favourably with the former indifference of the natives. Your Grace cannot but perceive that this small commencement is capable of a very wide and useful extension hereafter.

40. This seems a suitable place for drawing attention to the Registrar General's returns as to the population of the Colony, which has been the object of the recent legislation described. He puts it down at a total of 115,000 on the 31st of last December, of which 29,459 were females. These numbers are exclusive of the military and naval forces, and include 2,113 European and American civil residents, of whom 673 were females.

41. I have every reason to regard this estimate as considerably under the truth, though some allowance must be made for the temporary desertion of the city at the date of the Census, through apprehension of the probable operation of the new Registration and Harbour Ordinance. Those apprehensions, it may be as well to remark, have long since disappeared, and the harbour is more than ever crowded with native craft; whilst the excess of immigration over emigration since the 1st of January would probably not be less than 15,000. At the same time I have no doubt that nearly 1,500 indifferent characters have left the city, a large proportion of that number having sought refuge in Macao, the present principal haunt in this part of the world of pirates, kidnappers, and "mauvais sujets" generally.

42. I may also observe that the heading of "coloured" is ill chosen as descriptive of the Chinese in the Registrar General's population returns. As a race they are fairer

than many inhabitants of southern Europe, whilst in North China they are as fair as Europeans generally. I may also add, that I place no reliance on the returns given of mortality amongst the Chinese, and still less on the contents of the singular column headed "Mortality out of the Colony," which is described as amounting to 864 deaths last year. There can possibly be no sensible meaning attached to such a return, which is evidently absurd, and I have directed its omission in future, though it appears to have formed one of the regular annual returns here for a series of years.

HONG KONG.

43. Of the remaining Ordinances passed last year, to which I have not specially adverted, the most important, as affecting the social condition of the population, are the Ordinances for Maintenance of Order and Cleanliness (No. 8.), since amended, and the "Ordinance for Suppression of Piracy." (No. 9.) The latter constitutes a very excellent Court to try, without intervention of a jury, certain classes of piracy cases, whenever the Attorney General sees reason to prefer proceeding in the new Court, *i. e.*, during vacation, or to prevent delay leading to loss of evidence or tampering with witnesses.

Vide Ordinance
No. 9. of 1863.

44. The Court is to consist of the Chief Justice (President), the Senior Naval Officer, the Judge of the Summary Court, and two others to be named from time to time by the Governor. The most valuable portion of the Ordinance, however, is that which enacts new penalties for confederation of every kind and degree with pirates, &c., offences over which by a recent Ordinance the Supreme Court has now equal and similar jurisdiction. The new Court has not yet been constituted, though, without having the least reason to find fault with the administration of justice in piracy cases before the Supreme Court, I hope soon to call the former into existence, because in certain contingencies its aid might be valuable.

45. No Ordinance, however, that was passed last year, or indeed for many years, caused so much opposition and gave rise to so much debate as that for imposing Stamp Duties. (No. 12.) It had, nevertheless, become evident that the annual income of the Colony was unequal to its expenditure, especially as the Mint, to which I shall presently advert, had consumed almost all the surplus capital of the Colony. I had foreseen, and reported during the first week of my arrival here, that the legitimate expenses of the Colony, unaided by any Customs Revenue, and increased by the double burthen of the Mint, if unsuccessful, and the annual military contribution, would probably end in reducing the Colony to bankruptcy, an event which may be said to have taken place last year, when I was obliged on my own responsibility to borrow 80,000 dollars from one of the banks at 8 per cent. interest, for the purpose of meeting the ordinary expenses of Government.

46. The stoppage of useful public works, such as supplying the town with water, drainage, making of roads, and supplying adequate hospital accommodation, aided by one fortunate land sale, have put the Government in a position to meet the most urgent demands, but the arrears of the military contribution since the 1st of last September remain unpaid. More recently, the destruction caused by typhoons, of the great public work of the city, *viz.*, the sea wall which protects the praya, or main thoroughfare of the city along the harbour, and on the strength of which depends the security of the fine range of buildings extending for miles along the praya, has completely disabled the Colony, if held liable for its restoration, from meeting the liabilities imposed by Her Majesty's Government, that is to say, it is disabled from meeting them if it attempts to discharge the ordinary duties of a Government to the community.

47. In my Despatch No. 361., of the 11th ultimo, I had the honour to furnish your Grace with convincing proofs that the permanent ordinary revenue of the Colony has certainly not increased for several years, and that, although it had apparently risen from 120,000*l.* in 1863 to 160,000*l.* in 1866, the increase, so far from leaving any balance available to meet fresh burdens, was wholly imaginary, and occasioned by a difference in the mode of keeping the postal accounts, as well as by an increase in the police and other rates which are annually leviable for special objects, and are not available for other purposes. In fact, I proved that, having regard to these considerations, there was actually less available revenue in 1866 by nearly 10,000*l.* than in 1863.

48. The argument, therefore, in favour of some increase of taxation, was irresistible, and I think was wholly unanswered by those who memorialized against the Stamp Ordinance, which is the only measure that in a free port like this could have been imposed without striking a blow at the root of the prosperity of the Colony, a tax, moreover, the fairest of all in its incidence, and the most lightly borne, as it is self-adjusting

HONG KONG. in amount, because the latter must always be proportioned to the number and magnitude of the transactions on which the tax falls.

49. Unavoidable delays, as your Grace is aware, prevented the Stamp Ordinance from coming into operation till the 10th instant, and, judging from the present receipts, I think an increase to the revenue from \$100,000 to \$120,000 may be expected from that source. I understand, however, that so large an amount is not anticipated by those whose opinions on such a subject should have weight.

50. I have, however, entered so fully and so frequently into all details connected with the financial position of the Colony and the Stamp Ordinance, that, with the above remarks, I pass to another subject of great interest, and which it would be impossible to omit from a review of the year 1866. Few incidents indeed connected with Hong Kong during the past year attracted more attention than the opening of the Mint; a scheme originally devised with a view to increasing the colonial revenue by profits expected from the coinage of dollars and other money for circulation principally in China. The establishment was formally opened by myself on the 7th of May of last year, but its success has unfortunately not as yet answered the expectations of its projectors.

51. In my Despatch No. 172. of the 15th December last, I had the honour to lay before the Secretary of State the report of a commission of inquiry into the Mint, and also a return of the true cost of the Mint up to that time, in buildings, machinery, &c., &c., as well as loss of interest on capital sunk, an account of the items of which had been very carefully revised by the Auditor General, and the total even then amounted to \$450,000. This has been since increased, including all expenditure here and in Europe on account of the Mint, to not less than \$520,000.

52. Against that expenditure the only profits received from the Mint have been \$18,823, as explained in my Despatch No. 373. of last month. A portion of those profits consists only of the credit taken by the Mint for alloy as silver in the subsidiary coins struck for Government, although a large portion of that coinage still lies unavailable in the Treasury, in consequence of the unexpected difficulty of getting rid of it. It is quite true, as remarked by me in my Despatch of last December, that if subsidiary coins be made with only 80 per cent. of silver instead of 90, as in the case of dollars, we should get 100 instead of 90 dollars for 80 parts silver, but till we can induce the public to take them, not merely is no profit made, but a loss of interest is incurred on the silver employed.

53. As the seignorage charged has been reduced one half since the 12th of December last year, and is now only one instead of two per cent., a figure so low that it would require an annual coinage of upwards of 13 millions of dollars merely to pay the Mint's current expenses when in full work, with so small a seignorage it would seem that every reasonable encouragement has been given to the public to send in bullion for minting. The Chinese Government has also declared the Hong Kong dollar a legal tender in payment of all Government dues, but, nevertheless, the Mexican dollar still commands a premium over the Hong Kong dollar, whilst the price of silver has ruled so high for a long period, that, with the exception of a temporary profit made recently under favourable circumstances, by minting Japanese itchiboos, there has been scarcely a possibility of the public profitably using the Mint.

54. No doubt there were several radical errors committed by the projectors of the Mint, who, it must be remembered, had not the aid of actual experience as to the working of the project to guide them, and therefore any comments which I may now make, or which I have ever made, cannot be supposed to reflect in the least on those who were probably more competent than myself to form an opinion based on the information then before them.

55. It would appear, however, that the occasional extra value formerly placed by the Chinese in some districts on certain coins like the Carolus dollar, which rose to a premium at one time of more than 12 per cent., led to inferences not justified by the facts. The Chinese at the opening of trade in new districts naturally distrusted strange coins offered by foreigners, and were ready to give more for those previously known to them. The knowledge, however, which experience conferred, gradually put an end to all fanciful distinctions between coins, leaving only that which arose from the difference of their supposed intrinsic worth, or their general recognition for trading purposes. It would also seem that the projectors of the Mint overlooked the fact that the ancient usages of the Chinese empire necessarily prevent, in the long run, a preference for one

dollar more than another, or for any coin whatever, except by reason of its greater value. HONG KONG.
as containing more silver.

56. This will be clearer if it be remembered that the real medium of exchange in China consists simply of silver, and whether in shapeless lumps or elegant coin is a matter of indifference in the chief marts of trade. This principle is carried so far that the coins received in payment of Chinese Customs dues, and which are taken simply for their intrinsic worth as compared with the standard of pure Hakwan silver, are as a rule melted down indiscriminately by the Chinese into the form of shoes and bars. It may be urged that a system which, strictly speaking, should entail a separate weighing and assaying for each transaction, is indefensibly barbarous and inconvenient. Undoubtedly it is so; but the fact that such has been the custom of the country for centuries, and also that the whole body of Chinese officials is interested in maintaining a practice which gives them innumerable opportunities for cheating, or, as it is called here, squeezing Government debtors and others, is not the less a fact of extreme importance when calculating the chance that people will pay a premium for minting silver into a shape which confers on it no increased purchasing power in China.

57. With the exception of the gratuitous coinage of \$376,859 at the commencement from defaced coins, when for some months no seignorage was charged by the Mint, the whole work done by that establishment on which seignorage was paid since 7th of last May to the 30th ultimo, if computed in dollars, has amounted only to \$961,726.

58. As your Grace is aware, there are numerous other very interesting questions connected with this subject, quite beyond the scope of this present communication. I must, however, particularize the surprising difficulty of getting rid of subsidiary coins, which one might have imagined would have been eagerly welcomed as a substitute for the little broken pieces of silver still used as change in the neighbouring provinces. Even the copper cents coined for the Colony in England, and on which a net profit of 20 per cent. at least was expected, are now at 35 per cent. discount, independent of heavy charges for freight and manufacture, as they were ordered from England.

59. On the whole I incline to the opinion that, even if efforts now being made succeed in procuring the recognition and acceptance by the Japanese Government of the Hong Kong dollar, the Mexican will for many years be manufactured and laid down here more cheaply than the former can be produced, whilst there is no reasonable ground for supposing that the Hong Kong dollar, unless it contains more silver, that is, unless it costs more to manufacture it than the Mexican, will secure any preference over the latter. At present the Mexican coin, from its general recognition in Japan as well as China, is at a premium of nearly one per cent. over the Hong Kong dollar, which itself maintains here a premium of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over its intrinsic worth.

60. At the same time, so many elements of uncertainty caused by varying exchanges, &c., &c., and the shifting necessities of commerce, must always enter into calculations of this kind, that no one should pretend to form a decided judgment as to almost any result connected with the possible success of the Mint, if that establishment could be permanently maintained. It must obviously be often useful and profitable, to the banks at least; but the propriety of keeping it open for such a reason, even for a month, at the cost of the Colony, is a totally different matter. Even that point, however, is apparently not very easy of solution, for it is a question which has occupied the attention of Her Majesty's Government since last February, and I am not aware that any decision has yet been arrived at.

61. It would be very difficult to decide whether any effect, and, if so, of what nature, has been produced on the success of the Mint by the great commercial depression which has existed in China for the last three years, and the general shock to credit in the East, which has resulted in part, but in part only, from that suffered in Europe at an earlier period in the current year, and which has left but five out of eleven banks remaining at Hong Kong, whilst numerous firms, some of them of the very highest standing, have fallen.

62. These events have been very painful to witness, though ultimately they may evolve good from evil, if hereafter they tend to reduce speculation within more reasonable limits, and curb that extravagant waste hitherto so general in the style and maintenance of the establishments kept up, not in one but in many ports, by those who assumed the position of partners in leading houses. Waste and extravagance are questionable at all time as a matter of good taste or good example, and from the

HONG KONG. first must have been inconsistent with the economy recommended by sound trading principles, as indeed the result has shown.

63. Nevertheless, though individuals and firms have disappeared, the great field for commercial enterprise, so far from being thereby contracted, is extending, and I propose to give here some particulars descriptive of what I may call the movement of this port; because I question if any adequate conception has been formed by the general public of the large interests centered here, or the extraordinary life and movement which distinguishes this great emporium of eastern trade, though it seems scarcely noticed by those habitually engaged in it.

Encl. No. 3.

64. It may be conceded that the convenience and importance of a port are best tested by the number of vessels which find it their interest to resort there. If we judge of Hong Kong by this standard, or by the class of vessels which frequent the port, and the value of their cargoes, it must be regarded as occupying a very high position. Even during the commercial depression of 1866 throughout China, no fewer than 3,783 British and foreign vessels, equal to 2,015,747 tons, entered and cleared from here. I may remark that, large as that amount was, the tonnage does not include the shipping between this port and Macao and Canton. The number only of those vessels is given in the Harbour Master's enclosed report. This will be corrected in future returns. Of the above total, 1,727 vessels were British, with an aggregate of 1,047,447 tons.

65. I have already explained that till the passing of the Harbour and Coasts Ordinance of last year there had been no means of giving the least account of the native craft frequenting the harbour and colonial waters. I am, therefore, much gratified at being enabled now to supply that omission for the first half of the present year, and we may thence approximately infer, by allowing double asimilar amount for the whole of last year, what was the real number of vessels and tonnage resorting to this harbour during that period.

66. I therefore annex a return of those vessels for the first half of the current year, and your Grace will perceive that during the six months computed from the 1st January last to the 30th of June last native vessels amounting in number to 26,856, and equal to 648,825 tons, arrived and cleared from Hong Kong. Doubling these figures, we obtain a probable approximate total for the whole year 1866 of 53,712 native vessels, equal to 1,297,650 tons.

67. If we add the latter figures to those previously given of the British and foreign vessels using the harbour during 1866, we obtain a total of vessels 57,495, tonnage 3,313,397.

68. It must further be remembered that the above figures do not include the vessels, cargo-boats, sampans, and passenger boats, &c. which are licensed by the Registrar General. These, according to that officer's return, enclosed in the Blue Book, amount in number to 3,445 with a floating population of nearly 27,000 persons.

69. I am enabled further to complete this picture of the business carried on in the waters of the Colony by giving for the first time an approximate estimate of the number of persons arriving and departing from the Colony. As the Harbour Master's returns now comprise the numbers of the crews and passengers in every native vessel for the first six months of the current year, and given as 105,501, adding to these the passengers carried to and fro in the various Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao steamers, which considerably exceed 1,000 daily, and of whom, through the courtesy of the directors, I have received accurate returns, and also computing 20,000 arrivals and departures for the same period in passenger boats and vessels licensed by the Registrar General, I find the total for the first six months of 1866 exceeds 321,000, or 642,000 in the year.

70. Therefore the "movement" in the port for 1866 and other average years may be approximately estimated at 57,495 vessels, equal to 3,313,397 tons, exclusive of British and foreign shipping to Canton and Macao, and carrying 642,000 persons to and from Hong Kong annually.

71. As probably 900,000 tons at the least of the native craft arrive and leave for foreign ports, and cannot therefore be included in the "coasting trade," within the sense intended in the Board of Trade's returns, we may regard the total tonnage entered and cleared seawards from Hong Kong in 1866, exclusive of coasting trade, as not having been less than 2,900,000 tons, notwithstanding the large decrease for that year commented on in the Harbour Master's report.

72. Comparing these figures with those of other British possessions, as given in the Statistical Abstract of the Board of Trade for 1863, which unfortunately is the latest within my reach, it will be found that the tonnage entering and clearing seaward from this port considerably exceeds that of all Canada seawards in 1863, and nearly equals that of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island united. It equals that of all Australia collectively at the same period, exclusive of New Zealand; whilst it exceeds the entire tonnage employed in the commerce of all the British West Indies, including British Guiana, by more than one million of tons. HONG KONG.

73. As the port of Hong Kong is entirely free from every impost, no export or import duties being leviable, and there being no charges even for lights or tonnage dues, direct information as to the value of the trade cannot be furnished. Hence, in the long List of the British Possessions in the Board of Trade's Statistical Tables, "no Returns" has hitherto stood opposite Hong Kong alone; and having communicated with the Chamber of Commerce on the subject, I much fear that there is no possible means of acquiring the information, without such interference with the present perfect freedom of the port as might injuriously affect the interests of the latter. It is, however, not wholly impossible to gauge the magnitude of the operations conducted within the confined limits of this small Island.

74. In my Despatch No. 172. of the 15th December last, I drew attention to the enormous quantity of bullion and coin imported annually into the Colony, whilst, nevertheless, for months no employment was given to the Mint. The imported coin and bullion I then estimated at 50 millions of dollars annually, and I understand, on very good authority, that at this moment there are nearly seven millions of dollars in coin and bullion within this city, of which the banks hold about five; an amount whose magnitude, so far from proving a healthy condition of trade, denotes its general sluggishness, and the diminished opportunities for lucrative operations.

75. When business was more active, the average amount of bills and other securities in local use was probably nearer nine than eight millions of dollars, whilst the amount actually held at present does not much exceed four millions and a half, a value considerably less, by at least more than a third, than the bullion and coin now stored in the city.

76. In venturing to give the above approximate calculations, I have of course no means of vouching their accuracy, but I nevertheless put them forward as deserving attention, being based on information supplied by the parties most conversant with the monetary and general business transactions of the port.

77. Those transactions are not exclusively connected with the China trade, but nevertheless may all be regarded as, collaterally at least, springing therefrom, and, as so, dependent generally on the immediate prospects of that and the Japan trade, that I can scarcely place before your Grace a true picture of the prospects of a Colony which is the main depôt of that commerce, and the centre of the orders issued and the operations connected therewith, unless I allude to the extent and prospects of the general trade with China.

78. I have fortunately just received from Mr. Robert Hart, the very able Inspector General of Imperial Customs for the Chinese Government, an analysis of the returns of the China trade during 1865 and 1866. Not to add unnecessarily to the length of this communication, which has already much exceeded the limits which I had proposed to myself at its commencement, I shall confine myself to the figures connected with last year, except in stating that the total trade in 1865 was 272,232,038 taels, and in 1866 was 299,929,541 taels, exhibiting an increase in the latter year of 26,697,513 taels, or eight millions sterling, an increase which I may say has generally averaged since 1860 11 per cent. on each preceding year.

79. Consul Robertson, at Canton, has recently occupied himself much with the returns connected with the trade of the open ports, bringing to his analysis of that trade great experience, accuracy, and patience. He has most kindly furnished me with the results of his investigation into the trade of 1866, and his general result for that year tallies almost exactly with the figures given by Mr. Hart, whilst his analysis is more clearly or rather more succinctly put.

HONG KONG. 80. I cannot, therefore, do better than give his concluding summary in full. It is as follows:

Summary for 1866.

	Taels.	Sterling.
Imports - - - - -	172,462,136	54,613,008
Treasure - - - - -	40,332,532	12,771,967
Exports - - - - -	102,923,034	32,592,295
Treasure - - - - -	43,777,753	13,862,955
Total - - - - -	359,495,455	£ 113,840,225
Or,		
Imports and exports - - - - -	275,385,170	87,205,303
Treasure - - - - -	84,110,285	26,634,922
Total - - - - -	359,495,455	£ 113,840,225

The above figures show the total value of foreign trade with China, including the re-exports. These, however, must be deducted to arrive at the true amount.

	Taels.	Sterling.
Total value of foreign trade - - - - -	350,495,455	113,840,225
Deduct re-exports - - - - -	59,565,914	18,862,539
True value of foreign trade - - - - -	299,929,541	£ 94,977,686

81. Hence it will be seen that foreign trade with China in the year 1866 amounted to close upon ninety-five millions of pounds sterling, and of that trade the share of Great Britain amounted to no less than 71,518,723*l.*, or nearly 63 per cent. of the whole.

82. Your Grace will probably admit that the above marvellous figures of so enormous a trade, which is not merely still existing but annually extending, leave little ground for apprehending that there is not ample room for future large and remunerative commercial transactions, if ordinary prudence be exercised; and that whatever may be the depression existing at present, there is every legitimate reason to expect that, as the business itself is not affected in value or extent, it may hereafter be carried on with profit, though probably that profit will not be divided as in former years, but be shared by more numerous firms of a more manageable size, but with smaller capital, and therefore necessitating more stringent economy.

83. That the trade has been profitable to China, which country has now a steady increasing Customs revenue exceeding last year two millions and a half sterling, may be regarded as a fortunate circumstance, because it must make it the interest of that government to be liberal in its encouragement of a commerce which is so profitable, not merely to the Imperial Exchequer, but which, as Mr. Hart observes in a former report on the trade of 1865, had in the five preceding years left the balance of trade in favour of China, as shown by the excess of her exports over imports, which excess amounted during that period to no less than 40,000,000*l.* sterling.

84. It must also be borne in mind that Hong Kong is no less connected with the Japanese trade than the China trade, and I may safely estimate the annual value of the former as already amounting to nearly six millions sterling, whilst it is probably capable of vast extension. Enough, however, has been said to show the vast importance to Great Britain of this small and comparatively barren Island, which has become the centre of the leading commercial operations connected with the colossal trade of which I have ventured to bring some details to your Grace's notice. It is here that those reside who direct the principal transactions connected with that trade, whilst they maintain other establishments and agencies at the commercial marts along the coast. It is also here that Her Majesty's Government has been enabled to establish their most secure depôt for all military and naval stores required east of Singapore. Here are docks capacious enough to take in almost the largest vessels in the Navy, and a harbour that could shelter at once hundreds of the finest ships, and is not surpassed in convenience of anchorage, and scarcely in beauty, by any other harbour in the world.

85. There is, however, no parallel between this and any other British settlement. It owes its importance to no productions or manufactures of its own. The very trade which

it controls, and the shipments which it orders, are for the most part conducted many hundreds of miles away from Hong Kong. It is a mere depôt, which may be regarded as maintained for the general convenience of Her Majesty's Government and of British interests, so largely connected with the trade of China.

* * * * *

86. Nothing can be more admirable than its geographical position, at the south-eastern extremity of China, offering equal facilities to vessels bound north, south, or west, and, as lately proved in the case of the Pacific Mail Steam Company, offering greater conveniences than any other place in China as a central station for the traffic between California and China. Nevertheless it is impossible to foresee what changes, by operation of telegraph and railway or other circumstances, may yet affect its prosperity; and I should gladly see the interval actively employed in making sanitary improvements, and, if possible, in rendering the loading and discharge of vessels a more easy and less expensive operation than at present.

* * * * *

87. I must now refer your Grace, for further information as to the condition of the Colony, in respect to education, climate, and postal communication, to the accompanying reports of Mr. Stewart, Dr. Murray, and the Postmaster General. I cannot think of lengthening this Despatch by dealing with those subjects, especially as the two former do not admit of being at once treated briefly and usefully.

I have, &c.

His Grace the (Signed) RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL,
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, Governor.
&c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

RETURN showing the Number of PRISONERS confined in Victoria Gaol, classified as under, from the 1st November 1866 to 4th October 1867.

Date.	No. of Criminals.	Debtors.	Remand for Trial and Crown Witnesses.	Total.	Remarks.
1866.					
November 1 -	682	2	38	722	From the 1st July up to the 4th October inclusive, no less than 86 European seamen have been received in gaol for refusal of duty, &c. During the same period 32 Indians from one ship alone, viz., "Glen-Roy," for the same offence, were also received in gaol.—Total 118. (Signed) F. DOUGLAS, Gaol Superintendent.
" 15 -	735	3	65	803	
December 1 -	716	3	34	753	
" 15 -	707	4	26	737	
1867.					
January 1 -	694	4	20	718	
" 15 -	690	3	21	714	
February 1 -	610	7	23	640	
" 15 -	553	8	26	587	
March 1 -	579	7	14	600	
" 15 -	576	7	22	605	Supreme Court in Recess.
April 1 -	492	6	29	527	
" 15 -	449	5	38	492	
May 1 -	447	5	21	473	
" 15 -	417	5	22	444	
June 1 -	424	5	22	451	
" 15 -	462	5	21	488	
July 1 -	482	6	12	500	
" 15 -	491	7	24	522	
August 1 -	478	8	17	503	
" 15 -	527	8	16	551	
September 1 -	498	9	16	523	
" 15 -	510	8	24	542	
October 1 -	501	4	23	528	
" 4 -	502	1	30	533	
Total -	13,222	130	604	13,956	

Memo.—The Prisoners belonging to the Hulk were borne on the books of that establishment until 31st October 1866; after that date they were transferred to the books of this department.

(Signed) F. DOUGLAS,
Gaol Superintendent.

HONG KONG.

Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

RETURN of NATIVE VESSELS and TONNAGE under Harbour and Coasts Ordinance, No. 6 of 1866, from January 1st to June 30th, 1867.

Number of Vessels.	Arrivals.		Departures.		Passengers.		Remarks.
	Cargo.	Ballast.	Cargo.	Ballast.	Arrived.	Sailed.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.			
12,424	209,335	70,942			53,215	52,286	Total 105,501.
1,130							
* Total - 13,554	* 280,277 tons.						
12,148	-	-	295,426				
1,154	-	-		73,122			
Total - 13,302			368,548 tons.				
* 13,554			* 280,277 "				
Grand total - 26,856	Vessels equal to - - 648,825 "						

Hong Kong, 26th September 1867.

(Signed) H. G. THOMSETT.
Harbour Master, &c.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL, C.B., to his Grace the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 394.)

Government House, Hong Kong,
14th November 1867.

MY LORD DUKE,

IN reference to my Despatch No. 384., transmitting the Blue Book for last year, and more especially to those paragraphs (80 and 81) which give the summary of foreign trade with China during 1866, I think it desirable to transmit in full the analysis of the figures for that year with which Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, Mr. Robertson, has kindly favoured me, and which he has since supplemented with the figures for the years 1864 and 1865.

He has done this in a manner so clear and simple that the document appears to me to deserve the widest circulation, and in the event of any publicity being given to my Report, I should wish the Trade Analysis by Consul Robertson to be published with it as explanatory of and supplemental thereto, for the magnitude of the figures, which I accepted as accurate, is such as to require some such voucher as that which the details furnished by Consul Robertson supply.

I have, &c.,

RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL,

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c.

Governor.
&c.

Enclosure in No. 2.

HONG KONG.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1864.

Port.	Value in Taels.	—	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
CANTON.				
Imports	5,874,234			
Treasure	2,027,708			
Exports	9,086,630			
Treasure	-	16,988,572		
Re-Exports	-	3,647,580	13,340,992	4,446,997
SWATOW.				
Imports	6,118,195			
Treasure	-			
Exports	3,537,357			
Treasure	-	9,655,552		
Re-Exports	-	70,339	9,585,213	3,195,071
AMOY.				
Imports	6,375,871			
Treasure	762,288			
Exports	2,705,822			
Treasure	763,256	10,985,237		
Re-Exports	-	555,587	10,429,650	3,476,550
FOOCHOW.				
Imports	6,820,229			
Treasure	-			
Exports	12,546,599			
Treasure	-	19,366,828		
Re-Exports	-	179,788	19,187,040	6,395,680
FORMOSA.				
Imports	615,069			
Treasure	136,140			
Exports	733,777			
Treasure	-	1,484,986		
Re-Exports	-	165,153	1,319,833	439,945
NINGPO.				
Imports	10,264,616			
Treasure	547,742			
Exports	6,250,306			
Treasure	-	17,062,664		
Re-Exports	-	1,289,182	15,773,482	5,257,827
SHANGHAE.				
Imports	64,832,271			
Treasure	13,752,529			
Exports	37,698,790			
Treasure	11,981,632	128,265,222		
Re-Exports	-	38,652,356	89,612,866	29,870,955
CHIN KIANG.				
Imports	4,673,293			
Treasure	405,180			
Exports	1,208,939			
Treasure	-	6,287,412		
Re-Exports	-	1,011,435	5,275,977	1,758,659
KIU KIANG.				
Imports	2,622,317			
Treasure	1,329,310			
Exports	4,070,948			
Treasure	174,661	8,197,236		
Re-Exports	-	97,253	8,099,983	2,699,994
HANKOW.				
Imports	7,937,558			
Treasure	4,822,856			
Exports	13,444,582			
Treasure	1,062,433	27,267,429		
Re-Exports	-	191,094	27,076,335	9,025,445

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1864—*continued.*

HONG KONG.

Port.	Value in Taels.	—	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
CHEFOO.				
Imports	3,024,974			
Treasure	486,778			
Exports	2,758,547			
Treasure	-	6,270,299		
Re-Exports	-	466,157	5,804,142	1,934,714
TIENTSIN.				
Imports	7,779,197			
Treasure	-			
Exports	1,730,786			
Treasure	-	9,509,983		
Re-Exports	-	133,775	9,376,208	3,125,403
NEWCHWANG.				
Imports	709,738			
Treasure	-			
Exports	1,710,398			
Treasure	-	2,420,136		
Re-Exports	-	31,228	2,388,908	796,303
Total	263,761,556	-	217,270,629	72,423,543

SUMMARY.

Imports	-	-	Taels 128,025,562	Sterling £42,675,187
Exports	-	-	" 97,483,481	" 32,494,494
Treasure	-	-	" 38,252,513	" 12,750,837
Total	-	-	Taels 263,761,556	£87,920,518

Or,

Imports and Exports	-	-	Taels 225,509,043	" 75,169,681
Treasure	-	-	" 38,252,513	" 12,750,837
Total	-	-	Taels 263,761,556	£87,920,518

Thus the total value of foreign trade with China in the year 1864 is in taels 263,761,556, or in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 87,920,518*l.*, including re-exports; these, however, must be deducted to arrive at the net value.

Total Value of Foreign Trade	Taels 263,761,556	Sterling £87,920,518
Deduct Re-Exports	" 46,490,927	" 15,496,975
Net Value of Foreign Trade	Taels 217,270,629	" £72,423,543

Thus the net value of foreign trade with China in the year 1864 is in taels 217,270,629, and in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 72,423,543*l.*

The tariff duties paid at the foreign custom houses in 1864 amounted to the sum of taels 8,177,144, or in sterling 2,725,714*l.*, which, if added to the total value of foreign trade, shows the transactions of the year amounted to the sum of taels 271,938,700, or in sterling, 90,646,233*l.* Probably it was more, for treasure being free, a correct account of its import and export was not kept at all the ports, and, therefore, in round numbers, 95,000,000*l.* sterling may be taken as a fair estimate of the value of foreign trade in the year 1864.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1865.

Port.	Value in Taels.	—	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
CANTON.				
Imports	7,569,084			
Treasure	2,452,939			
Exports	12,945,117			
Treasure	2,142,028	25,109,168		
Re-Exports	-	212,401	24,896,767	8,298,922

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1865—*continued*.

HONG KONG.

Port.	Value in Taels.		Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
SWATOW.				
Imports	7,584,270			
Treasure	532,458			
Exports	3,033,818			
Treasure	3,829,843	14,980,389		
Re-Exports		220,775	14,759,614	4,919,872
AMOY.				
Imports	9,302,877			
Treasure	858,035			
Exports	1,935,388			
Treasure	3,357,900	15,454,200		
Re-Exports		878,781	14,575,419	4,858,473
FOOCHOW.				
Imports	6,762,129			
Treasure	5,010,279			
Exports	15,286,284			
Treasure	617,734	27,676,426		
Re-Exports		206,751	27,469,675	9,156,558
TAKAO.				
Imports	1,130,234			
Treasure	92,704			
Exports	769,522			
Treasure	222,078	2,214,538		
Re-Exports		116,744	2,097,794	699,265
TAMSUI.				
Imports	520,135			
Treasure				
Exports	242,697			
Treasure		762,832		
Re-Exports		730	762,102	254,034
NINGPO.				
Imports	6,484,599			
Treasure	808,085			
Exports	5,085,255			
Treasure	3,023,408	15,401,347		
Re-Exports		294,968	15,106,379	5,035,459
SHANGHAI.				
Imports	64,616,815			
Treasure	10,218,189			
Exports	37,232,534			
Treasure	4,298,602	116,366,140		
Re-Exports		48,366,215	67,999,925	22,666,642
CHINKIANG.				
Imports	6,369,481			
Treasure	1,545,292			
Exports	952,147			
Treasure	1,974,251	10,841,171		
Re-Exports		51,806	10,789,365	3,596,458
KIUKIANG.				
Imports	3,432,473			
Treasure	2,239,412			
Exports	6,273,930			
Treasure	4,325,534	16,271,349		
Re-Exports		239,596	16,031,753	5,343,917
HANKOW.				
Imports	11,007,309			
Treasure	2,238,548			
Exports	12,685,231			
Treasure	3,202,950	29,134,038		
Re-Exports		383,675	28,750,363	9,583,453
CHEFOO.				
Imports	4,654,024			
Treasure	361,650			
Exports	2,529,006			
Treasure	1,207,376	8,752,056		
Re-Exports		132,634	8,619,422	2,873,140

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

HONG KONG.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1865—*continued*.

Port.	Value in Taels.	—	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
TIENTSIN.				
Imports	11,911,156			
Treasure	129,900			
Exports	1,690,869			
Treasure	3,671,641	17,403,566		
Re-Exports		58,719	17,344,847	5,781,615
NEWCHWANG.				
Imports	1,686,177			
Treasure	39,600			
Exports	2,167,314			
Treasure		3,893,091		
Re-Exports		24,917	3,868,174	1,289,391
Total	304,260,311	—	253,071,599	84,357,199

SUMMARY.

Imports	-	-	Taels 143,030,763	Sterling £47,676,921
Treasure	-	-	" 26,527,091	" 8,842,364
Exports	-	-	" 102,829,112	" 34,276,371
Treasure	-	-	" 31,873,345	" 10,624,448
Total	-	-	Taels 304,260,311	" £101,420,104
Or,				
Imports and Exports	-	-	Taels 245,859,875	Sterling £81,953,292
Treasure	-	-	" 58,400,436	" 19,466,812
Total	-	-	Taels 304,260,311	" £101,420,104

Thus the total value of foreign trade with China in the year 1865 is in taels 304,260,311, or in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 101,420,104*l.*, including the re-exports; these, however, must be deducted to arrive at the net value.

Total Value of Foreign Trade	Taels 304,260,311	Sterling £101,420 103
Deduct Re-Exports	" 51,188,712	" 17,062,904
Net Value	Taels 253,071,699	" £84,357,199

Thus the net value of foreign trade with China in the year 1865 is, in taels, 253,071,699, or in sterling, at the average rate of 6s. 8d. per tael, 84,357,199*l.*

The tariff duties paid at the foreign custom houses in 1865 amounted to the sum of taels 8,297,275, or in sterling, 2,765,758*l.*, which, added to the total value of foreign trade, shows the transactions of the year amounted to the sum of taels 312,557,586, or in sterling, 104,185,862*l.*

In round numbers the foreign trade with China in the year 1865 may be taken at 101,500,000*l.* sterling.

VALUE of FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1866.

Port.	Value in Taels.	—	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
CANTON.				
Imports	10,628,326			
Treasure	4,404,776			
Exports	14,124,468			
Treasure	3,249,027	32,406,597		
Re-Exports		186,522	32,220,075	10,740,025
SWATOW.				
Imports	9,229,705			
Treasure	938,046			
Exports	3,663,557			
Treasure	3,593,877	17,425,185		
Re-Exports		129,997	17,295,188	5,765,063

VALUE OF FOREIGN TRADE with China in the Year 1866—*continued*.

HONG KONG.

Port.	Value in Taels.	—	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
AMOY.				
Imports	- - - -	8,902,041		
Treasure	- - - -	1,018,685		
Exports	- - - -	2,992,383		
Treasure	- - - -	2,476,715	15,389,824	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	938,465	14,451,359
				4,817,119
FOOCHOW.				
Imports	- - - -	8,663,590		
Treasure	- - - -	7,955,208		
Exports	- - - -	14,587,335		
Treasure	- - - -	1,249,824	32,455,957	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	321,965	32,133,992
				10,711,331
TAKAO.				
Imports	- - - -	1,195,267		
Treasure	- - - -	11,325		
Exports	- - - -	869,084		
Treasure	- - - -	309,041	2,384,717	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	4,625	2,380,092
				793,364
TAMSUI.				
Imports	- - - -	711,687		
Treasure	- - - -	Nil.		
Exports	- - - -	252,814		
Treasure	- - - -	Nil.	964,501	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	5,899	958,602
				319,534
NINGPO.				
Imports	- - - -	6,409,051		
Treasure	- - - -	512,791		
Exports	- - - -	6,435,810		
Treasure	- - - -	3,274,118	16,631,770	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	255,186	16,376,584
				5,458,861
SHANGHAI.				
Imports	- - - -	74,492,286		
Treasure	- - - -	21,744,904		
Exports	- - - -	31,773,262		
Treasure	- - - -	14,685,032	142,695,484	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	56,746,719	85,948,765
				28,649,588
CHINKIANG.				
Imports	- - - -	5,879,931		
Treasure	- - - -	1,023,230		
Exports	- - - -	592,861		
Treasure	- - - -	2,156,398	9,652,420	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	33,093	9,619,327
				3,206,442
KIUKIANG.¹				
Imports	- - - -	3,952,618		
Treasure	- - - -	1,183,202		
Exports	- - - -	6,170,202		
Treasure	- - - -	80,000	11,886,096	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	163,853	11,222,243
				3,740,748
HANKOW.				
Imports	- - - -	17,044,278		
Treasure	- - - -	875,938		
Exports	- - - -	14,207,480		
Treasure	- - - -	4,471,641	36,599,337	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	306,340	36,292,997
				12,097,666
CHEFOO.				
Imports	- - - -	6,341,503		
Treasure	- - - -	281,053		
Exports	- - - -	2,645,886		
Treasure	- - - -	2,056,294	11,324,733	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	369,261	10,955,475
				3,651,825
TIENTSIN.				
Imports	- - - -	16,665,086		
Treasure	- - - -	201,698		
Exports	- - - -	2,687,962		
Treasure	- - - -	6,175,788	25,730,534	
Re-Exports	- - - -	-	81,629	25,648,905
				8,549,635

Port.	Value in Taels.	—	Value less Re-Exports.	Sterling.
NEWCHWANG.				
Imports	2,346,767			
Treasure	181,600			
Exports	1,919,930			
Treasure		4,448,297		
Re-Exports		22,360	4,425,937	1,475,312
Total	359,495,455		299,929,541	99,976,513

SUMMARY.

Imports	-	-	Taels 172,462,136	Sterling £57,487,378
Treasure	-	-	„ 40,332,530	„ 13,444,177
Exports	-	-	„ 102,923,034	„ 34,307,678
Treasure	-	-	„ 43,777,755	„ 14,592,585
Total	-	-	Taels 359,495,455	„ £119,831,818

Or,

Imports and Exports	-	-	Taels 275,385,170	Sterling £91,795,056
Treasure	-	-	„ 84,110,285	„ 28,036,762
Total	-	-	Taels 359,495,455	„ £119,831,818

Thus the total value of foreign trade with China in the year 1866 is in taels 359,495,455*l.*, or in sterling, at the average rate of 6*s.* 8*d.* per tael, 119,831,818*l.*, including the re-exports; these, however, must be deducted to arrive at the net value.

Total Value of Foreign Trade	Taels 359,495,455	Sterling £119,831,818
Deduct Re-Exports	„ 59,565,914	„ 19,855,305
Total	Taels 299,929,541	„ £99,976,513

Thus the net value of foreign trade with China in the year 1866 is, in taels, 299,929,541, or, in sterling, at the average rate of 6*s.* 8*d.* per tael, 99,976,513*l.*

The tariff duties paid at the foreign custom houses in 1866 amounted to the sum of taels 8,685,629, or, in sterling, 2,895,209*l.*, which, if added to the total value of foreign trade, shows the transactions of the year amounted to the sum of taels 368,181,084, or, in sterling, 122,727,027*l.*

In round numbers the foreign trade with China in the year 1866 may be taken at 120,000,000*l.* sterling.

Total of the Returns of 1864, 1865, and 1866.

1864	-	Taels 263,761,556	£87,920,518		
1865	-	„ 304,260,311	101,420,104	Increase	Taels 40,498,755
1866	-	„ 359,495,455	119,831,818	„	55,235,144
Total		Taels 927,517,322	£309,172,440		£13,499,586
					18,411,714

Or,

Increase of 1865 over 1864	-	-	-	86 ⁸⁹ per cent.
Increase of 1866 over 1865	-	-	-	84 ⁶³ per cent.

(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON.

LABUAN.

LABUAN.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Acting Governor to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 23.)

MY LORD DUKE, Labuan, June 25, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward the returns for the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1866.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year exceeded that collected during 1865 by 722*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, and amounted to 3,913*l.* 0*s.* 6½*d.*

This improvement was caused chiefly by an increased sale of land and redemption of quitrents, and by the company which lease the coal mines having paid the sum of 477*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* for rent under an arrangement which was not in force in previous years.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year was 6,959*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*, being 524*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* less than that of 1865. There was 892*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* less expended on public works and roads than in the preceding year, but on the other hand the expenditure on account of police was considerably increased in order to admit of a larger force being stationed in the vicinity of the coal mines.

The only other unusual item of expenditure was 67*l.* for the purchase of a fireproof safe for the better security of the books and papers of the Treasury.

Legislature.

Four Ordinances were passed during the year.

Ordinance No. 1, entitled "An Ordinance further regulating and defining the powers of the General Court of Labuan in criminal cases," was passed to assimilate the punishment of criminals tried before the General Court of the Colony to that prescribed by the laws of England, but reserved the power to flog in addition to such punishment. This Ordinance was subsequently repealed by Ordinance No. 4 of 1866.

Ordinance No. 2, entitled "An Ordinance making provision for levying in Labuan the tolls in respect of the light vessel upon Little Basses Rock in the Colony of Ceylon, and regulating the collection thereof."

Ordinance No. 3, entitled "An Ordinance regulating the manufacture, importation, exportation, and sale of arms and ammunition."

The intention of this Ordinance is to prevent, if possible, the supply of arms and ammunition to the pirates of the neighbouring seas.

Ordinance No. 4, entitled "An Ordinance further regulating and defining the powers of the General Court of Labuan in criminal cases," was passed to repeal Ordinance No. 1, Her Majesty's assent having been refused to it on account of the crimes for which flogging might be awarded in addition to any other sentence not having been specified. These are by Ordinance No. 4 defined to be burglary, robbery, setting fire to a dwelling house, larceny of an aggravated character or after two previous convictions, rape, and sodomy.

Population.

The population was increased by 483, and amounted at the end of the year to 3,828 persons exclusive of the military and convicts.

This increase arose from political troubles in the neighbouring state of Burnai having forced a number of Kadayans from that country to take refuge in Labuan.

Ecclesiastical.

A church dedicated to the Holy Saviour was completed and consecrated during the year. The cost was defrayed by a grant from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge of 200*l.*, 100*l.* contributed by Government, and about 417*l.* by Governor Edwardes, the Lord Bishop of Labuan, and the public.

LABUAN.

Imports.

The total value of imports for the year amounted to 109,134*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* In 1865 it was returned as 104,190*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

Exports.

These were valued in 1866 at 58,293*l.* 10*s.*, against 58,536*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* in the preceding year.

Shipping.

Two steam ships under the auspices of the coal company called regularly once a month on their voyages to and from Singapore and China *via* Manilla, to the great convenience of the residents in the Colony.

Mines.

The coal mines leased to the China Steam Ship and Labuan Coal Company, "Limited," produced 11,317 tons of coal, being a slight decrease in quantity as compared with the yield of 1865, which was 11,830 tons.

A change in the management took place in the month of May, with apparent advantage to the works, but the company's agents in Singapore having failed in October, financial embarrassments ensued, and put a stop to all improvement about the end of the year.

Gaols and Prisons.

Seven of the convicts transported to this place from Hong Kong were released on tickets of leave. These men, as well as those previously enlarged in the same manner, have easily found the means of subsistence, and their conduct has been satisfactory.

Health.

The health of the Colony during the year was moderately good for Labuan, but I regret to say that two out of the four European female inhabitants died, and his Excellency the Governor left the Colony at the end of November to return to England on account of his health.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HUGH LOW,

Acting Governor.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

STRAITS
SETTLE-
MENTS.

No. 4.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

No. 4.

[Not received.]

MAURITIUS.

MAURITIUS.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR HENRY BARKLY, K.C.B., to his Grace
the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

Mauritius,

23d September 1867.

MY LORD DUKE,

Owing to the extent to which the clerks in every department of the public service have suffered and still continue to suffer from the epidemic fever which has prevailed in this Colony since the beginning of the present year, the Blue Book returns for 1866 have only just reached my hands.

2. I shall not detain them for any lengthened report, as they have already lost somewhat of their interest by the delay, and by the startling events which have occurred in the interim. It is not difficult indeed to discern in them, by the light of subsequent experience, the germs of the terrible disasters which have since reached their climax!

3. Though the prospects of the Colony at the opening of the year appeared brighter than they had been during the unfavourable seasons of 1864 and 1865, they grew gradually gloomy as the scarcity of rice in Bengal raised that article to a famine price in this Island, and the long-continued drought here reduced the sugar crop to two thirds of what had been expected by the planters.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. These and other circumstances affected the finances in more ways than one, and to so serious an extent as to occasion a deficit of sixty thousand pounds on the year's transactions.

5. Rice forming the staple food of the great bulk of the population, those not under engagement on sugar estates, and not receiving rations, therefore, from the planters, had little surplus of their earnings to expend on the purchase of other dutiable articles. The Customs revenue thus fell off, whilst the sale of colonial spirits declined to an extent which caused a deficiency in that branch of the internal revenue of upwards of ten thousand pounds.

6. These decreases, however, are nearly counterbalanced in the returns as forwarded, by the additional income of 35,311*l.* accruing from the second line of railway, which had been opened for traffic towards the close of the previous year, so that the receipts of 1866 apparently only fell short of those of 1865 by 7,150*l.*; but as, on the other hand, the expenditure was increased by 32,800*l.* by the additional amount required for the railway working department, this augmentation of the receipts was merely nominal. Without this addition, the expenditure of 1866, notwithstanding a further addition of 6,080*l.* for interest on the railway loan, was, on the whole, a few hundred pounds less than that of 1865.

7. It will give a clear idea of the position of the colonial finances to separate all items connected with the railway undertaking from the accounts. The revenue, exclusive of railway traffic, actually amounted to 562,323*l.* The expenditure, exclusive of the working department and the interest and sinking fund on the railway loan, was 566,730*l.*, showing an excess of 4,407*l.*

But it must be borne in mind that an outlay of 21,000*l.* from accumulated balances had been authorized in the estimates on certain buildings, of which 5,277*l.* was actually spent, and included in the accounts.

8. The railway account, on the other hand, stands thus:—

Traffic receipts	-	-	-	£77,253.
Working expenses	-	-	-	- 63,947.
Profit on working				£13,306.

Against which has to be set, for sinking fund and interest on the loan, 69,371*l.*, showing a loss by the undertaking of 56,065*l.*, more than equal to the entire deficiency of the year, the sum taken from balances excluded.

MAURITIUS.

9. When the estimates for the year were voted, it was anticipated that the traffic receipts would prove some 5,000*l.* higher, and the working expenses some 12,000*l.* less, whilst the extra Customs duties specially voted in 1863 towards paying the interest and sinking fund were relied on to augment the ordinary revenue more than enough to make good the difference.

10. Unfortunately, as already stated, the famine and short crop diminished both ordinary revenue and special duties, whilst the latter sensibly reduced the railway returns.

11. The deficit, together with a decrease of 9,000*l.* on deposits, was met, as shown by the treasurer's statements of assets and liabilities, by payments from the colonial treasury, without trenching on funds invested at home, the balance of cash, which had been 124,918*l.* 3*s.* on the 1st January 1866, being reduced to 55,477*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* by the end of the year.

Local Revenues.

12. Not having a reserve to fall back upon, the municipality of Port Louis had recourse again to an increase of its debt by the emission of debentures to the value of 28,280*l.* Of this amount, however, 7,260*l.* was employed to reimburse the holders of debentures of a former issue, and 10,670*l.* in liquidation of arrears of expenditure of 1865, so that the net addition to the liabilities of the town pertaining to the year was about 10,000*l.*

13. The introduction of a system of underground sewerage, as well as of other sanitary reforms which had been long needed, was of course out of the question in such a state of things.

14. I have already explained in my reply to the Earl of Carnarvon's comments on the remarks made on this head in my Blue Book Despatch of last year, why, in my opinion, the suppression of the municipality, as proposed by his lordship, is not an expedient remedy for these evils. I still hope, and I am encouraged in doing so by the generous efforts made during the recent epidemic, that there is sufficient energy and aptitude for self-government in the leading citizens of Port Louis to avert any necessity for so retrograde a step; but I must at the same time admit that if the terrible lessons which overcrowding and malaria have done the utmost to inculcate do not suffice to stir the town council up to prompt and united action for the safety of themselves and their families, there will be no alternative but to try the experiment of a paid board of municipal commissioners, which appears to be working so satisfactorily in the Great Indian capitals.

Military Expenditure.

15. A further diminution is stated in the cost of the garrison, which is now set down at 115,000*l.* The contribution of 45,000*l.* out of this amount exacted from the Colony is felt to be a very heavy drain on its resources, as I have already had the honour, at the instance of the Legislative Council, to submit to Her Majesty's Government.

16. Passing over minor matters on which I have in previous years reported, I proceed to the Custom House Returns, exhibiting the trade of the Colony throughout the year.

Imports and Exports.

17. The valuation of articles imported is 2,227,093*l.*, or, excluding specie, 2,048,539*l.*, which is 85,739*l.* above that of the preceding year. This is due, not to increase in quantity, but solely to the high price of bread stuffs, rice showing an increase of 43,226*l.*, dholl and gram of 15,000*l.*, whilst maize, wheat, and wheaten flour together make up 48,000*l.* more, or a total increase of 106,000*l.*

There can be no doubt, however, that these calculations, which are probably regarded at the Custom House as of little consequence, the trifling duty imposed being leviable per bag, are very far below the mark, and that the excess of outlay for the importation of food must have been at least five times this amount; thus, for instance, the value of 856,385 bags of rice from continental India is set down at only 467,517*l.* sterling, or less than three dollars per bag, whilst it was selling here for many weeks at seven or eight dollars, and cannot have averaged less than six throughout the year.

18. The exports, minus specie, are valued at 2,501,805*l.*, or 127,714*l.* less than those of last year. For the reason above assigned, however, they must have fallen short of the real value of the imports, instead of surpassing them by nearly half a million.

19. The proportions in which the trade of the Colony was carried on with different countries showed considerable variation. The mother country, which had long ceded to

India the first place as to imports, has fallen below Australia in regard to exports, the latter taking to the value of 971,101*l.*, the former 718,567*l.* India stands third at 453,304*l.*, so that, after allowing for the Cape and other British possessions, little more than a seventh of the products went to foreign countries. Among these it is satisfactory to see that the value of the exports to Madagascar slightly increased, though still under 50,000*l.*, whilst those to the neighbouring island of Réunion rose from 30,000*l.* to 60,000*l.*

20. The falling off in the trade with Great Britain is mainly due, there can be no doubt, to the effects of the discriminating duties still levied on sugar, and its extent henceforth will be measured solely by the capabilities of Australia and India to consume the finer descriptions of Mauritius produce.

These two markets together took 70,000 tons out of the 109,000 exported in 1866; whilst 38,000 tons of the inferior descriptions were shipped to the United Kingdom.

21. One curious effect of this state of things was exhibited in a recent debate in the Chamber of Agriculture; the creation, namely, as in the West Indies, of a party who desire to see the principle of discriminating duties maintained, on the ground that as an outlet for all the fine sugars of the Colony has been secured, whilst only low qualities go to England, and pay the lowest scale of duty, an equalization of the rates now levied in that country, which range from 8*s.* 4*d.* to 12*s.* 10*d.*, would be equivalent to 2*s.* 4*d.* per cent. additional, to the disadvantage of the Mauritius producer in his competition with Cuba and Brazil.

22. On the assumption that the Australian Colonies neither become sugar producers themselves nor alter their tariffs, this may be a correct view of the case; but, as to the first point, Queensland is already making essays in the cultivation of the cane, whilst the still more formidable beet root is attracting attention in Victoria, where it would thrive admirably; and as to the second, though the refiners are few, and of little influence, protection to native industry is fast becoming a favourite cry with the masses, and if farmers take to growing sugar they will have as much right to claim it as those growing corn.

Shipping.

23. The tonnage of vessels entered at Port Louis was somewhat larger, that of vessels cleared somewhat smaller, than in the previous year. In both the average was about 300,000, more than two thirds being British or colonial.

Immigration.

24. The introduction of emigrants from India was not on a scale to add much to the number of vessels arriving, the expense of supporting labourers being too great to encourage the planters to send in requisitions. The emigration was:—

	Males.	Females.
From Calcutta	1,622	630
„ Madras	2,080	1,264
	3,702	1,894

Total 5,596, of which, as will be perceived, more than a third were women.

25. The interesting report of the Protector is as usual annexed, but as I have called attention to it in a previous communication, I shall not here allude further to its contents than to repeat that they will be found satisfactory.

Encl. No. 1.
not printed.

Population.

26. The usual statement of births, deaths, and marriages, as compiled from the returns of the officers of Civil Status throughout the Island, is appended,* but I regret that I cannot accompany it, as I have of late years done, with critical comments on the vital statistics of each particular district, as the General Sanitary Inspector was attacked by the epidemic before he had sent in his annual report for 1866, and did not sufficiently recover his health previous to his departure on leave of absence, to admit of his completing it.

* Not printed.

27. It appears to me more than ever desirable that such statistics should be promptly and correctly compiled, and that for this purpose the powers and functions of the Registrar General in England should be conferred on the General Sanitary Inspector here. This might be effected without additional expense, by taking advantage of the first opportunity to abolish the appointment of Chief Officer of the Civil Status in Port Louis, who now receives 500*l.* per annum besides his fees. His peculiar duties, of which the

MAURITIUS. principal is to attend at the celebration of marriages under the French code, being performed by the head clerk, who, with the rest of the staff, would be under the superintendence of the new Registrar General.

28. Taken as a whole, there was nothing in the population returns of 1866 to awaken anxiety as to the future. The deaths amounted to 12,347, 428 fewer than in 1865; the births were 11,067, or 71 fewer. The decrease, therefore, owing to the unequal division of the sexes among the Indian immigrants, was 357 less than in the previous year.

29. A closer scrutiny, no doubt, shows that special causes, predisposing to disease, must already have been at work in some of the leeward districts, the reduction in the aggregate mortality being due to the unusual healthiness of the windward side of the Island, which had even then begun to manifest itself. Thus the deaths in Black River district, when the epidemic had broken out, exceeded those of 1865 by 87, or 15 per cent.; in Port Louis by 235, or $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; but the influence seemed to have yet spread no further, the mortality of the next district, Pamplemousses, remaining as nearly as might be the same.

30. The total resident population on 31st December last is estimated, on the basis of the census of 1861 and subsequent alterations recorded, at 341,165, but I am inclined to believe this to be lower than the reality, as the additions by immigration are confined to those from India returned by the Protector; whilst it will be seen, for example, from the return of aliens, that no less than 1,623 Chinese arrived at their own expense, and were registered by the police within the year.

Education.

31. The annual report of the Superintendent of Government Schools is enclosed. It is an able and interesting document, and contains some curious comparisons between the number of failures in the National Schools of England and the Government Schools of Mauritius, under examinations conducted with the classification laid down in the "Revised Code," which has recently been adopted here on Mr. Browne's recommendation.

32. It appears that whilst the ratio of failures both in reading and writing was a little higher in Mauritius, 12.72 per cent. to 11.87 in the first and 15.05 to 13.98 in the second, it was wonderfully lower in arithmetic, namely, 12.35 per cent. to 23.69 per cent. at home; and though this is to some extent explained by the supposition that many pupils in advance of the prescribed tests for standard three were presented under that instead of the supplementary standard, the superiority is too marked to be altogether thus accounted for. Indeed, few who have been in the habit of witnessing the wonderful quickness of lads, both of Indian and African extraction, in answering questions in mental arithmetic, can be surprised at the result.

33. Up to the close of the year, nothing could have been more satisfactory than the progress both of schools and scholars, the figures then showing an addition of nine to the Government and one to the assisted denominational schools, bringing the total up to 107, of which 41 are exclusively Indian; whilst as to scholars, those in the Government schools had increased by 589, and those of the denominational by 184, up to the 31st December 1865; making the total on the rolls 6,770, the increase being attributable in a great degree to the Indian element.

35. Mr. Browne gives a favourable account of his inspections of the Indian Orphan Asylum at Powder Mills, and of the Reformatory School at Grand River, and states some remarkable facts as to the inmates of the latter.

36. The reports of the Manager of the Savings' Bank and of the Chairman of the Central Poor Relief Committee are also forwarded, as they throw a good deal of light on the general condition of the labouring population. Alterations in the poor law are suggested, and the whole system on which it is founded has been referred by me to a committee for report, but the points at issue relate to the mode of levying and collecting the poor rates, and not to any difficulty in regard to the extent of pauperism, the number of paupers, exclusive of those in Port Louis, provided for by the municipality, amounting only to 744, the majority of whom belong to the ex-apprentice class. Some better provision, however, for Indian immigrants who have become incapable of labour, is undoubtedly wanting, and the Protector has a scheme for the establishment of a central almshouse under consideration.

Gaols and Prisons.

37. The Procureur General being absent on leave, it has devolved on his substitute, Mr. Sholto Douglas, to send in the usual reports on the criminal statistics of the year. I am sorry to say that they are of an extremely unsatisfactory tenor, the

Encl. No. 2.
not printed.

Encl. No. 3.
not printed.

Encl. No. 4.
not printed.

Encl. No. 5.

symptoms of improvement that manifested themselves in 1865 having vanished, and matters being generally worse than in 1864. MAURITIUS.

38. The inadequacy of the prison accommodation throughout the Colony has thus again become most apparent, the partial relief afforded by the opening of the Vagrant Depôt in that year having ceased to produce any marked effect, either in Port Louis or the districts. Your Grace having called my attention specially to the subject, I will not enter on it further here than to say that I have for some time past contemplated the establishment of a second Vagrant Depôt, as soon as a suitable building can be found, and that the Surveyor General has been directed to press forward the erection of the new General Penitentiary as fast as the means at his disposal will permit.

39. I beg, however, particularly to point out, that, owing to the prisoners being for the most part employed during the daytime outside the walls of the gaols, many of them, moreover, sleeping in the camps established by the Public Works Department, the overcrowding is not so great as might be supposed, whilst its effects are not appreciably injurious.

40. It will be seen from the report of the Chief Medical Officer on the sanitary state of the district prisons, which is included as usual among the miscellaneous returns, that, although the mortality was somewhat larger than in the previous year, it amounted in the whole to but 65, out of a total of 18,425 prisoners, or 3·5 per 1,000 on the admissions.

Information as to the daily average being omitted, I cannot state the ratio in that point of view as respects the country; but with regard to Port Louis gaol, it may be gathered from Mr. Douglas' returns; and though there also the mortality was considerably in excess of the years immediately preceding, it will be found, even according to this test, not higher than the death rate among the general population of the city.

41. The advance of crime, as portrayed in the statistics now forwarded, is most alarming, and, I may add, inexplicable. The number of persons prosecuted at the assizes rose from 131 to 236, the increase being due principally to murders and robberies! The prosecutions for the former (including attempts) included 21 cases, implicating 47 prisoners, 12 of whom, however, were tried for one offence. Nine of these cases are attributed by the Acting Procureur General to jealousy; the rest to a variety of motives, Indians being the perpetrators in the proportion of eight to one.

42. Of the prisoners so tried eight only were sentenced to death, and of these two were executed. Mr. Douglas adverts to the change in the mode of carrying out capital punishment which is advocated by those best acquainted with the Indian character; and I can only for my part express a hope, that if the substitution of the punishment of decapitation for that of hanging is likely to have the deterrent effect anticipated, the experiment may at least be allowed to have a trial for a year or two.

43. Gang robberies, though not nearly so rife as in 1863 and 1864, have again taken an unaccountable start, the number of cases having been 14, or just double that of 1865, whilst the number of persons tried for participation in them was 79, or more than treble, giving an average of about five to each crime, and showing that as these bands of midnight marauders usually consist, as mentioned by Mr. Douglas, of from 20 to 50, how exceedingly difficult it is to discern and identify the offenders.

44. When it is added, that the number of larcenies, and of burglaries unaccompanied by personal violence, have also considerably increased, it must be owned that the maintenance of better order amidst the mixed races and tribes from every part of Hindostan which comprise the "old immigrant" population of this Colony, is a problem which demands the immediate and earnest consideration of the Executive and the Legislature.

45. The Indians, after completing their five years of industrial residence on a sugar estate, form indeed an agglomeration of bands under their respective sirdars or chiefs, rather than a regularly constituted society. Exempt from the influences of caste and the ties of relationship, unconscious of religious or moral obligations, especially where men of a different origin and language are concerned, the members of these bands, though often occupying respectable positions, as landowners or shopkeepers, seldom seem withheld by scruples from taking their share in plundering excursions after dark, or assisting in secreting stolen property. Thus the Madrassees notably prey everywhere on their Bengalee neighbours, who, in turn, rob other weaker parties of settlers in the vicinity, so that life and property, despite all the efforts of the police, have for the last five or six years become less and less secure.

46. Another evil which results from this agglomeration of bands is the overcrowding of the Indian villages, which have sprung up all over the country, the filth and dirt of which have mainly contributed, if not to engender, at least to intensify the recent frightful epidemic. There can be little doubt, indeed, that too entire and uncontrolled liberty

MAURITIUS. has been accorded to these "old immigrants," and that, as commonly happens with men unaccustomed to its enjoyment, it is fast degenerating into licence.

47. The obvious remedy for this seems to be, that the Government shall take steps for registering the dwelling places and occupations of all immigrants who have completed their industrial residence, and shall establish some sort of superintendence over their villages which will admit of the enforcement of stringent sanitary regulations. I am happy to be able to add, that a draft Ordinance having in view these objects has been already framed by the Acting Procureur General, and laid by me before the Council of Government.

Legislation.

Encl. No. 6.

48. The number of Ordinances passed during the year amounted to thirty-two. A description of the provisions of the most important of them will be found in the accompanying report from the Procureur General. The first to which he alludes, the Ordinance to amend the Law on Public Health, though introduced early in the year, did not, unfortunately, pass till the first November; and so little was the coming pestilence then foreseen by any one, that the vast extension of the powers of the General Board which it confers was postponed till the 1st May 1867.

49. Mr. Dickson likewise notices the amendment of the Criminal Law, by a closer assimilation to that of England in regard to outrages upon young persons, and by a still more necessary reform in the mode of preparation of the jury lists.

50. A change of great moment in the law of property was likewise effected by the last Ordinance of a few lines only passed in 1866, to abolish what are called judicial mortgages, in other words, the right given by the Code Napoléon to any holder of a judgment for debt of inscribing it over all the debtor's real estate as a preferential security, a right which occasioned needless and vexatious expenses, and gave rise to great abuses.

General Remarks.

51. For the last two years, in concluding my Blue Book Despatches, I have been driven to express a hope that I should be able to report a more flourishing state of affairs in my next. It will be seen, from the returns now forwarded, that this hope has not yet been realised, nor can I, in the face of the still severe ordeal through which the Colony is now passing, venture to repeat it.

52. Each successive season since that of 1862-63 has been one of grievous disappointment to the planters, whose industry furnishes that great staple on the value of which the prosperity of every class in the community depends, and though neither the falling off in the quantity of sugar exported during 1865, about 13,000 tons less than 1864, nor the reduction in value, 348,458*l.*, according to the Customs, which seem rather low valuations, are in themselves of any great consequence, it must be borne in mind that the crop was expected to realise at least another million sterling, and that the dry weather, and disease in the canes, which reduced it by a third, increased rather than diminished the planter's expenditure.

53. It is alarming, therefore, to think what the effect of a worse crop and lower prices, now certain, will prove by the close of the present year. I will content myself with observing, as I did in forwarding my first Blue Book Report from this Colony, when all seemed fair and flourishing, though I could not even then shut my eyes to the dangers run by a country dependent on a single staple, and that too produced by an alien population, "that, notwithstanding this dark side to the picture, I regard the position of Mauritius as sound in the main, and am sanguine that it will pass through any trials " that may be in store, if not unscathed, at least without serious permanent injury."

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

Enclosure in No. 5.

MAURITIUS.

Acting Procureur and Advocate General's Report on Crime.

The annexed table, showing the number of crimes and of persons prosecuted at the Court of Assize before a judge and jury from 1862 to 1866 inclusive, exhibits a very considerable increase on the former years, upwards of 100 persons having been brought to trial in 1866 in excess of 1865. Thus:—

Annexure A.

Year.	No. of Cases prosecuted.	No. of Persons prosecuted.
1865	64	131
1866	101	236

This increase appears to be distributed under almost every head of offence, but principally in crimes of murder and attempt to murder, the number of which have doubled since 1864 and preceding years, and is one third more than in 1865.

Table of the cases of murder and attempt to murder prosecuted from 1862 to 1866:—

Year.	No. of Cases prosecuted.	No. of Persons prosecuted.
1862	10	15
1863	9	20
1864	10	13
1865	14	33
1866	21	47

2. Eight persons have, during the past year, been sentenced to death, two of whom were executed, and six reprieved.

3. The great increase in numbers noticeable in 1865 and 1866 is partially to be accounted for from the fact that 13 Indians were tried and convicted in 1865 for the murder of their master, and 12 were also placed on their trial in 1866 for an attempt at a similar crime.

4. The greater proportion of cases of homicide are committed by the Indian population. Thus:—The number of cases of murder, attempt to murder, and manslaughter, by Indians and creoles, or natives of other countries, during 1866, is as follows:—

	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.
Creoles, &c.	5	6
Indians	21	48

Of the Indian cases of murder and manslaughter, the motive can be traced, in the greater proportion of cases, to jealousy and quarrels about women, as is shown by the following table:—

Jealousy or Quarrels about Women.	Robbery.	Revenge.	Drunken Quarrels.	Other Motives.	Total.
9	3	4	3	1*	20†

* Accused was a female.

† One found insane.

5. The increase on the crimes of wilful bloodshedding among the Indian population, and the proposed alteration in the mode of carrying out capital punishment, has been already brought under the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, by the Blue Book report on crime for 1865, and by Mr. Dickson's letter of the 27th October 1865, which formed an enclosure to the Governor's Despatch noted in the margin relative to the substitution of decapitation for hanging, and is also further reported on (in reply to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham's Despatch No. 2. of 14th March 1867) by my report on Ordinance 4. of 1867.

MAURITIUS.

6. The crime of rape and indecent assaults (called by our law "attempt on chastity") have much increased during the past years, and gave rise to the passing of Ordinance No. 12. of 1866. A full report by the Procureur General (Report No. 298 of 16th August 1866) of the causes which led to the alteration of the law has been transmitted to the Secretary of State.

Of the seven cases of rape brought to trial, five occurred before the alteration of the law was effected (13th July 1866), there is therefore grounds of belief that the law as at present revised will succeed in checking the further development of this offence.

7. It is to be regretted that the hope inspired in 1865, that the robberies committed by gangs of Indians by night were diminishing, has not been realized. Although the cases of this nature in 1866 do not reach the number of those tried in 1863 or 1864, yet they double those of 1865, thus:—

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.
1862	5	24
1863	16	106
1864	19	111
1865	7	24
1866	14	79

This class of offences is of a very serious nature, and one difficult of detection. It is confined almost, if not entirely, to attacks made by Indians (principally by Madras men) on those of their own nation, usually old and industrious Indians, who are known or supposed to have saved money, and to have secreted it in their residence.

8. The "modus operandi" of these gangs of thieves is usually the same. Numbers varying from 20 to 50 meet by night in the neighbourhood of the Indian hut destined to be plundered. They are armed with stout sticks, and several carry lighted torches. Entrance is effected in breaking by main force the outside door, the inmates are beaten till they are nearly or quite senseless, are bound hand and foot to a post, and the hut or shop ransacked of its contents. Frequently great cruelty is inflicted on the inmates to force a confession from them where the money has been buried or secreted. Having obtained their object, the thieves disperse in different directions, and the stolen property is quickly and surely disposed of.

9. The number of larcenies by servants, robberies by means of breaking, without the aggravated circumstances above mentioned, as well as the number of persons prosecuted as receivers, have considerably increased. This circumstance is in great measure to be accounted for from the fact that it has been considered advisable to prosecute in the higher court many old and confirmed thieves, who have repeatedly been convicted for larcenies in the minor criminal courts of justice in the Island.

10. The cases of forgery and embezzlement do not exceed the average of former years, and, with one exception, (by which the Oriental Bank Corporation were swindled of nearly 2,000*l*.) these crimes were committed for very small amounts.

11. Arson, a crime peculiarly rife among the Indian population, is extremely difficult of detection. The cases are, however, chiefly confined to the fire-raising of Indian huts, through some quarrels with neighbours of the same class. The cases prosecuted in 1866 are the same in number as 1865, and show a slight decrease on the two previous years.

17th June 1867.

(Signed) SHOLTO JAMES DOUGLAS,
Acting Procureur and Advocate General.

RETURN of CRIMES prosecuted before the Supreme Court from 1862 to 1866 inclusive.

	1862.				1863.				1864.				1865.				1866.			
	Prosecu- tions.		No. of Cases.		No. of Persons.		No. of Persons acquitted.		No. of Persons convicted.		No. of Persons convicted of lesser Crime.		No. of Cases.		No. of Persons.		No. of Persons acquitted.		No. of Persons convicted.	
Murder (or attempt to murder)	10	15	4	7	9	20	6	2	12	10	13	5	3	14	33	1	27	5*	21	47
Manslaughter	6	6	2	2	5	19	—	1	18	1	1	—	—	2	2	—	2	—	5	7
Wounds and blows causing death	2	2	1	1	5	11	6	9	2	4	4	3	—	3	5	—	5	—	6	8
Do. causing sickness	2	2	—	—	5	9	—	3	—	3	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	2
Involuntary homicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	2	2
Poisoning (not fatal) for purposes of larceny	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	7	4	3	—	1	1
Rape and attempt to rape	2	2	1	1	4	8	2	6	—	2	3	1	—	2	2	1	1	—	7	7
Bigamy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unnatural crimes	2	2	1	1	2	4	2	2	—	2	2	1	—	2	2	1	1	—	—	4
Perjury and subornation	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Placing stones on railway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
by gangs of burglars by night with violence	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Larceny to persons	5	24	8	15	16	106	38	67	1	19	111	37	64	7	24	12	12	—	14	79
on highway with violence	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	2	—	5	26	13	13	3	18	4	14	—	13	26
without violence, domestic larceny, &c., &c.	1	3	1	2	2	3	2	1	—	2	2	—	2	8	12	3	9	—	27	15
Receiving stolen property	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	3	3	—	3	3
Embezzlement	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	2	2	1	1	—	1	—	6	8
Forgery	3	3	1	2	4	3	1	2	—	5	6	1	5	6	10	3	7	—	3	8
Swindling, extortion, &c.	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malicious damage to property	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arson	6	6	3	3	8	11	4	7	—	9	11	8	3	1	7	—	4	—	1	8
Total	41	68	22	36	64	199	63	103	33	72	196	75	108	64	131	36	90	5	101	236
																				85
																				123
																				27

* One person found insane, 1865-66.

MAURITIUS.

Acting Procureur and Advocate General's Report on Prisons.

No additions or changes have been made during the past year in the number of prisons in the Colony.

Port Louis gaol continues to be the prison for convicts, for those sentenced by the magistrates of the civil and criminal sides of the district court of Port Louis, by the police and marine magistrates, and temporally for military prisoners discharged from the army with ignominy, and sentenced to penal servitude, and it is also the place of detention for untried prisoners.

The district gaols contain prisoners under the sentences of the district and stipendiary magistrate of each respective district, except Moka, whose prisoners undergo imprisonment in the Plaines Wilhems gaol, the two districts being, for prison purposes, united.

The Vagrant Dépôt at Grand River receives all vagrants sentenced by the stipendiary magistrate of Port Louis, and is under the control and management of the police department.

The following are the chief statistics of the Port Louis prisons for the year 1866 :—

1. Number of persons remaining on 31st December 1865 - 593
Number of prisoners entered in prison during the year 1866 - 5,223

Total number on the prison books in 1866 - 5,816
Number of prisoners discharged from prison during the year 1866 5,178
Number of prisoners remaining on prison books on 31st December 1866 - 738

2. The committals in 1866 exceeded those in 1865 by 79.

3. The following is a statement of the several countries to which the prisoners committed belonged, viz :—

English	-	-	-	-	254
Irish	-	-	-	-	128
Scotch	-	-	-	-	57
Dutch	-	-	-	-	9
French	-	-	-	-	74
American	-	-	-	-	30
German	-	-	-	-	8
Hanoverian	-	-	-	-	1
Peruvian	-	-	-	-	1
New Brunswickers	-	-	-	-	1
Malay	-	-	-	-	1
Swedes	-	-	-	-	8
Norwegian	-	-	-	-	2
Austrian	-	-	-	-	8
Arabian	-	-	-	-	2
Creoles of Mauritius	-	-	-	-	910
Madagascar	-	-	-	-	65
Mozambique	-	-	-	-	66
Chinese	-	-	-	-	16
West Indies	-	-	-	-	4
Madraseses	-	-	-	-	2,177
Bombayees	-	-	-	-	175
Bengalees	-	-	-	-	1,226
					5,223

4. The following table shows the number of prisoners committed in 1865 and 1866 by the various criminal and civil courts, whose prisoners were received in the Port Louis prisons, as also the increase and decrease in the committals on a comparison of these two years :—

	Stipendiary Magistrate.	Police Magistrate.	District Court.			Superior Court.		Naval and Military Prisoners.	Remanded for Trial.	Total.
			Merchant Shipping Act.	Civil Side.	Criminal Side.	Civil Side.	Criminal Side.			
1865	192	2,720	90	50	1,709	23	97	3	260	5,144
1866	53	2,479	72	57	2,020	18	115	0	409	5,223
Decrease	139	241	18	—	—	5	—	3	—	—
Increase	—	—	—	7	311	—	18	—	149	79

5. The committals by the police magistrate were fewer by 241 than in 1865.

The following is a return showing the committals by the police magistrate for drunkenness, disorders, and contraventions of municipal regulations, within the town boundaries, since 1862, viz :—

In 1862 there were 2,365 committals.

„ 1863	„	1,800	„
„ 1864	„	3,048	„
„ 1865	„	2,720	„
„ 1866	„	2,479	„

6. The committals for offences by seamen under the Merchant Shipping Act have been as follows since 1862, viz.:—

In 1862 there were 159 committals.

„ 1863	82	„
„ 1864	102	„
„ 1865	90	„
„ 1866	72	„

These numbers show a reduction of 18 in the committals in 1866 as compared with those in 1865.

7. There was an increase of 7 in the committals of fraudulent debtors in 1866 as compared with those in 1865.

The following is a table of the committals of this class of prisoners since 1862, viz.:—

In 1862 there were 103 committals.

„ 1863	103	„
„ 1864	59	„
„ 1865	50	„
„ 1866	57	„

8. The following is a return of the committals by the district magistrate on the criminal side of the district court, and also the more serious offences for which the committals were made, since 1862, viz.:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
Larceny - - - -	1,316	1,292	1,498	1,232	1,572
Assault - - - -	311	291	215	210	174
Licence contravention - -	40	31	36	14	11
In possession of gandia and opium	51	42	85	44	29
Receiving stolen goods - -	11	15	21	15	86
Adultery - - - -	20	6	10	7	8
Enticing away married women -	7	2	4	—	6
Other petty offences - - -	179	429	338	187	134
Total - - - -	1,946	2,108	2,207	1,709	2,020

This return shows an increase of 301 in the number of committals in 1866 as compared with 1865.

It is to be remarked that the proportion of larcenies to the total committals by the district courts increase year by year (except 1863) since 1861, as shewn by the following, viz.:—

The committals for larceny in 1862 were 67·62 per cent. of the total committals.

„ 1863	61·29	„	„
„ 1864	67·85	„	„
„ 1865	72·08	„	„
„ 1866	77·82	„	„

An increase of 5·74 per cent. in 1866 as compared with 1865.

9. The juvenile offenders when committed to these prisons are now soon after removed to the reformatory lately established at Powder Mills under the provisions of Ordinance No. 1. of 1867.

10. The number of committals for debt since 1862 are as follows, viz.:—

In 1862 there were 48 committals.

„ 1863	22	„
„ 1864	54	„
„ 1865	23	„
„ 1866	18	„

A reduction of 5 as compared with 1865.

11. The total numbers of untried prisoners who occupied the detention house since 1862 were—

In 1862	69
„ 1863	189
„ 1864	339
„ 1865	260
„ 1866	409

Or an increase of 149 as compared with the year 1865.

12. The statistics in the criminal cases which amount to felonies will be found in the chapter on crime.

13. There were during the year 1866 no committals of naval or military prisoners under sentences of courts martial.

The committals of such prisoners were—

In the year 1862	11
„ 1863	10
„ 1864	15
„ 1865	3
„ 1866	0

14. The highest number of prisoners locked up on any one night during the year was 795 ; the lowest was 562.

15. The average daily lock up in 1866 was 686, or 124 higher than in 1865,

MAURITIUS

The average number of prisoners nightly locked up since 1862 has been as follows, viz. :—

In 1862	it was	698.
" 1863	"	720.
" 1864	"	682.
" 1865	"	562.
" 1866	"	686.

16. The number of prisoners sent to the Civil Hospital for treatment in 1866 was 568, or 9·72 per cent. on the number of prisoners on the prison books.

The per-centage of sick sent to the hospital from 1863 to 1866 was as under, viz. :—

In 1863 the proportion was 2·71 per cent.

" 1864	"	3·16	"
" 1865	"	4·49	"
" 1866	"	9·76	"

The average daily attendance (including prisoners sent to hospital) at the prison surgery for advice and treatment in 1866 was 19·51 or 284 per cent on the average lock up.

The average daily attendance at the surgery in 1863 was 11·78 or 1·63 per cent. of the average daily lock up.

" 1864	"	17·69	"	2·59	"
" 1865	"	11·54	"	2·05	"
" 1866	"	19·51	"	2·84	"

17. The deaths in 1866 were 30 or ·51 per cent. of the total number on the prison books, being an increase of ·10 per cent. as compared with 1865.

The following shows the per-centage of deaths in years from 1863 to 1866, viz. :—

In 1863 the per-centage was ·39

" 1864	"	·39
" 1865	"	·41
" 1866	"	·51

The number of each class of prisoners is as follows, viz. :—

Felons	-	-	-	15
Misdemeanants	-	-	-	10
Convicted by police magistrate	-	-	-	3
" stipendiary magistrate	-	-	-	1
Untried	-	-	-	1
Total	-	-	-	30

The following table shows the period of imprisonment undergone by the prisoners previous to their deaths :—

Under 14 days' imprisonment	-	3
More than 14 days but less than 1 month	-	3
" 1 month	3	8
" 3 months	6	5
" 6	12	4
" 1 year	2	5
" 2	3	2

18. Two men were executed during the year, both for murder.

19. The punishments for prison offences are shown by the following comparative statement; the solitary confinement, curtailing of rations, wearing chains, and flogging; viz. :—

	Solitary Confinement, &c. &c. &c.	Flogged.
In 1862	77	14
" 1863	151	8
" 1864	2,086	17
" 1865	2,012	51
" 1866	4,236	6

The number of punishments is high, but is attributed to the unusually large number of prisoners kept at work inside the prison walls.

20. No escapes were effected from within the prison walls during the year, but there were 27 escaped from out-door working parties.

21. The following is a statement of the escapes annually since 1862, viz. :—

In 1862 there were 93 escaped.

" 1863	"	104	"
" 1864	"	82	"
" 1865	"	77	"
" 1866	"	27	"

22. The number of escaped prisoners recaptured, and brought back to prison, is shown by the following, viz. :—

In 1862 there were 54 brought in.

" 1863	"	41	"
" 1864	"	43	"
" 1865	"	55	"
" 1866	"	19	"

23. During the year 1866 338 fines, amounting to 379*l.* 1*s.*, were paid at the prison on account of the Municipal Corporation and of the Colonial Government. MAURITIUS

24. The number of visits to convicted prisoners was 2,025, and the number of visitors was 2,910.

25. The females' prison remains in the same condition as regards discipline, and insufficiency of space and accommodation for the numbers confined therein, as was represented in the report for the year 1865 (paragraph 25).

The highest number of prisoners confined in this ward in 1866 was 40, whilst there is only room for 25 persons.

26. The following statement shows the nature and amount of remunerated labour performed by prisoners during the year, and also the estimated value of the labour of prisoners employed at public works, but not paid for:—

Remunerated Labour.

	£	s.	d.
Making nets	-	35	6 8 $\frac{3}{4}$
Picking oakum	-	45	12 0
Breaking macadam	-	65	15 10
Carpenter and coopers' work	-	3	10 2
Tinsmiths' work	-	0	5 8
Tailors' work	-	27	17 3
Mat making	-	2	12 4
Bed making	-	2	7 8
Basket and chair making and repair	-	6	14 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Shoemakers' work	-	88	4 11
Sewing (by females)	-	12	18 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
	£291	5	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

£ s. d.

Labour supplied for public works:—

61,028 days' labour for the Surveyor General's Department, at 6 <i>d.</i> per diem	-	1,525	14 0
2,970 days' labour for the Municipal Corporation, at 6 <i>d.</i> per diem	-	74	5 0
	£1,890	4	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

In addition to the works for which payment was received, the following were performed by prisoners inside of prison, viz.:—

- 3,027 conjon shirts were made.
- 1,789 pairs of canvas trousers were made.
- 45 „ boots were made.
- 48 „ „ repaired.
- 7,224 articles of various kinds were marked.
- 14 tin ration measures were made.
- 6,280 pairs of canvas trousers were repaired.
- 4,540 conjon shirts were repaired.
- 100 rattan brooms were made.
- 1 tool chest was made.
- 20 prison guards' jackets were repaired.
- 2 chairs were rattaned.
- 65 shoemakers' lasts were made.
- 18 ration tubs were repaired.
- 49 flannel shirts were made.
- 2 office stools
- 13 constables' truncheons were made.
- 720 tin articles were repaired.
- 2 lamps
- 1 watering pot was repaired.
- 56 wooden spoons were made.
- 24 rattan baskets
- 1 office ruler was made.

27. The reimbursement in aid of the expenses incurred by Government for the establishment amounted, in all, to 317*l.* 10*s.* 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*

28. The following statement shows the number of days on which the prisoners were employed at the different kinds of labour:—

Works for which cash is collected:—	Number of Days.
Sweepers'	- 9,596
Surveyor General's Department	- 61,028
"Inodore" attendance	- 1,602
Servants to prison officers'	- 3,078
Good-conduct prisoners'	- 534
Doorkeepers'	- 621

REPORTS EXHIBITING THE PRESENT STATE

MAURITIUS.

Cooks' - - - - -	2,406
Washing prison clothing - - -	2,316
Making, mending, and marking clothing - - - - -	6,471
Tinsmiths' - - - - -	277
Coopers' - - - - -	65
Carpenters' - - - - -	525
Barbers' - - - - -	407
Shoemakers' - - - - -	49
Washing corridors, &c. - - -	148
Filling carts and carrying stones -	3,854
Whitewashing and destroying bugs -	266
Shot drill and walking exercise -	58,904
Municipal Corporation - - - -	2,970
Basket and broom makers' - - -	288
Making nets - - - - -	2,936
Picking oakum - - - - -	2,737
Tailors - - - - -	624
Carpenters' - - - - -	-
Breaking macadam - - - - -	16,044
Shoemakers' - - - - -	3,055
Mattress makers' - - - - -	71
Basket and chair makers' - - -	185
Door-mat makers' - - - - -	81
	181,138

Not at work:—

Exempt by sentence - - - - -	273
Untried prisoners - - - - -	14,908
Debtors - - - - -	2,444
In solitary confinement - - -	1,477
Under sentence of death - - -	129
Sundays and holidays - - - -	38,465
Sick and unfit for work - - -	2,302
Transferred to the other prisons -	453
Juveniles - - - - -	4,104
Females sewing, &c. - - - -	8,542

Total - - - - - 254,235

29. On the whole, the establishment was worked as satisfactorily during the year as the structure of the prison would permit.

12th June 1867.

(Signed) SHOLTO JAMES DOUGLAS,
Acting Proc. and Adv. General.

SEYCHELLES ISLANDS.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir HENRY BARKLY, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 247.)

MY LORD DUKE,

Mauritius, 30th September 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the accompanying Report from Mr. Swinburne Ward, Civil Commissioner of the Seychelles Islands, covering the Blue Book Returns for those dependencies for the year 1866.

His Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

Civil Commissioner's Office,
Seychelles, 1st July 1867

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual returns required for the Blue Book.

2. Your Excellency will be pleased to observe that the dependency continues to thrive in all important respects, although there is a slight decrease in the exports for the past

SEYCHELLES
ISLANDS.

No. 6.

year, and a difference in cocoa-nut oil, the staple product of these Islands, amounting to 1,546*l.* less than that exported in 1865. This is accounted for by an increased local consumption, and by the fact that prices at Mauritius were so low that a large quantity of oil has been kept in store here, waiting for a rise in the market. The export for 1866 is, however, nearly double the amount of that for 1862, the first year for which I had the honour of making a report upon the state of these Islands.

3. The export of vacoa bags, owing to the short crop of sugar in Mauritius and the consequent small demand for them, has very greatly decreased. This item of commerce, formerly entirely dependent upon Mauritius, is now exported in increasing quantities to Zanzibar and Johanna; but, notwithstanding these outlets, the demand decreased from Mauritius in 1865 to the value of 3,594*l.* in the past year of 106*l.* has had a serious effect upon a large class of society in this Island, whose only occupation consisted in making vacoa bags.

4. The smaller items of commerce have also decreased in proportion. They are absolutely dependent upon the demand from Mauritius, and a fall in prices there speedily discourages minor trades here. Tortoise shell still commands a ready sale and a high price. It was exported to the value of 1,337*l.* last year, and a quantity was sent to France by the overland route, an excellent profit being obtained upon it, notwithstanding the very heavy freight charged by the "Messageries" steamer. Here it is usually sold at 12*s.* per pound. In London the finest sample is valued at only 11*s.*, but it brings a high price in France and Italy.

5. Judging by the imports, the best test of the internal prosperity of any country, trade is certainly flourishing. The manifests of the vessels trading between Mauritius and this port show that Customs duty has been paid at Mauritius upon goods shipped for Seychelles during the past year to the amount 1,273*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, showing an increase of more than 100*l.* upon that paid in 1865. The usual large proportion of this was paid upon wines, beer, and spirituous liquors, viz., 874*l.* 16*s.*; but as this port was visited by men-of-war twenty-eight times last year there was no difficulty about their successful sale.

6. The duty levied on rum amounted last year to 1,631*l.*, notwithstanding the large amount of spirits imported from Mauritius. This consumption is wholly local, and is not affected at all by the visits of the men-of-war, as the sailors will not touch it.

7. The strictest measures have been taken for the suppression of the manufacture and sale of the fermented juice of the sugar cane, pine apple, and cocoa palm, throughout these Islands; but although the effect has been that this illicit manufacture has much decreased, the small police force at my disposition is not sufficient to exercise a proper and effective supervision even over all the Island of Mahé.

8. The manufacture of this deleterious beverage is very simple; no still is required, and no apparatus beyond some utensil for holding the inspissated juice, usually a large calabash, such as is common in every hut. These small huts and houses are situated in all parts of the Island, in all the secluded valleys, and on the apparently almost inaccessible sides of the steep mountains, in situations where the process of making this intoxicating liquid can be carried on without fear of detection or interruption. The raw material costs nothing, a patch of sugar cane grows in the vicinity of almost every dwelling, the cocoa palm thrives everywhere without trouble or cultivation, and the hill sides are covered with pine apples indigenous to the country, most luxuriant in growth, but of an excellent flavour and full of juice. The latter, however, are only available at certain seasons of the year; a beneficial arrangement, perhaps, as I am informed by an old man of considerable experience, that it takes quite two days to recover from a well developed excess in the poisonous potation made from its juice.

9. This infraction of the law is most especially frequent in the Island of Praslin. No tavern exists there, but intoxication is common enough. There the beverage is made almost solely from the cocoa palm, neither pine apples nor sugar cane being at all abundant; a constable is stationed at Praslin, but as the manufacture of toddy is permitted by law, though it must not be sold after 12 o'clock, there is no possibility of preventing any person from purchasing it before that hour, and allowing it to ferment in his own house afterwards. The only means of checking the practice in Praslin would be, to allow no one to make any toddy at all. In the Island of Mahé every effort of the police has been put in force against it, but there can be no doubt that in all the outlying districts, in the remote valleys, and in the mountain gorges, the law will be frequently evaded. Where taverns exist it is the direct interest of the proprietors to inform against the illicit manufacturer.

10. The town and its environs have been much improved during the past year, and now present a really creditable appearance. Two new streets have been opened through

SEYCHELLES
ISLANDS.

the most thickly populated portion of the town, and a small swamp, which existed in the vicinity, has been filled up; a great sanitary improvement. Thanks to the liberality of the Government, the Roman Catholic Chapel presents a very different aspect, and is now an ornament to the town, instead of an eyesore, as was formerly the case. The grant in aid of its completion has given the greatest satisfaction to the inhabitants, of whom at least nine tenths are Roman Catholics.

11. In all new buildings, masonry work in coral is wholly superseding wood, now become very scarce and dear, hardly obtainable, in fact, except upon Félicité and Silhouette Islands. Coral is so easy of manipulation that the trade of a mason is very easily acquired here. All ordinary carpenters tools can be employed when working it, and there is no difficulty about turning it to any pattern required.

12. Land in and near Port Victoria has greatly increased in value. A plot about six miles distant was sold last year for 17*l.* per acre, and I have been offered 200*l.* for a portion of land reclaimed from the sea in front of the town to the north of the river St. Louis. Several more acres of very valuable land might be easily reclaimed at no great outlay a little further to the north; and should the Victoria Pier be extended to the edge of the reef opposite the Ilot Hodoul, the whole of the space between it and the pier now in ordinary use would be soon filled up by the silt of the sand, and become a most valuable property. The town is fast becoming too small for its annually increasing population, and house rent is more than double what it was four years ago, so that as a speculation the extension of the Victoria pier would answer very well. All vessels trading to this port could lay alongside it at all tides to discharge their cargoes; the owners would gladly pay for such an advantage, and the sale of the land reclaimed from the sea would ultimately recover the whole of the amount expended on the extension of the pier.

13. I take the opportunity while on this subject of drawing attention to the very important fact that the harbour is filling up in many places, and that the coral all round the Seychelles group is growing with an extraordinary rapidity. Taking the original survey of Captain Owen, executed in 1825, the difference between some of his soundings and the existing ones is very large; more than might have been expected even after so many years. In one spot on the anchorage near St. Anne's Island, on the opposite side of the harbour, only seven fathoms are now found where fourteen are marked on the chart. In the inner basin, the triangulation of which was made three years ago by the master of the "*Orestes*," almost on the spot marked as the best and most secure anchorage for vessels of war, and soundings given at seven fathoms, the coral is now within two and a half fathoms of the surface, not water enough for the larger vessels of the East African squadron, such as the "*Highflyer*."

14. Another instance, or rather a series of instances, will be found on the whole bank extending from Frigate Island to Eagle Island, the whole of which has much increased, but most markedly when passing half way between Mahé and Silhouette, the ordinary course for ships. In many places, six, seven, eight, nine, and ten fathoms only are now found where thirty-nine and forty are marked upon the chart. According to the men who now constantly resort to this shallow portion of the bank to fish, this difference has taken place within the past four years, but it probably has only been noticed by them since that date. It is at a distance of six miles from Mahé, in the middle of the usual passage for vessels of all classes. Of its actual depth at present I have made certain by personal observation and soundings, but for want of proper instruments I was unable to fix their exact positions on the chart.

15. The same increased growth of coral I am informed by the captains of the different trading vessels and of the whalers cruising in these waters is found on all the banks between this and Mauritius. "*Coetivy*" is in reality very much larger than what it is marked on the chart, and the soundings very much less, seven fathoms only having been obtained for a distance of 20 miles. At this depth, in anything like heavy weather, the sea would necessarily break. The "*Fortune Bank*" has greatly expanded. "*Sayed de Malha*" is becoming dangerous, and is likely to appear above the surface before many years elapse.

16. It is very important in the interests of navigation that these waters, especially such portions as are frequently crossed, should be re-surveyed. The French charts contain some valuable additions to the English ones, but they are all based upon Captain Owen's. Of the growth of coral nothing absolutely positive is known beyond the fact that it requires a substantial basis. The bank between Frigate and Eagle Islands is part of the Seychelles geological range, and probably, therefore, composed of granite, upon which the coralline insect has commenced its work. This work can be advanced to within six feet of the surface, but the progress of its advance is very uncertain. Still,

the well-ascertained growth of more than twenty fathoms, as is the case in the channel between Mahé and Silhouette, supposing the coral to have been growing since the date of Captain Owen's survey, sufficiently denotes the great necessity that exists for fresh soundings being taken.

17. During the past year the road has been steadily progressing, but with an apparent slowness from its having to pass across an extensive marsh, and from the cost of the necessary bridges, one of which required very large and solid abutments, and another a series of heavy piles, expensive as to their original cost, and both troublesome and expensive to drive in the absence of proper machinery. No support for an abutment was to be found in the bed of the river, composed of quicksand, in which a rod of iron thirty-six feet in length disappeared by its own weight when placed upright in it. These difficulties have, however, been successfully overcome; piles eighteen inches square were driven in to a distance of seventeen feet, and the whole bridge is now perfectly solid. But these bridges, always costly, are necessarily more so here, where no professional engineer exists, where the machinery required has to be improvised and made on the spot, and where no really skilled labour is obtainable.

18. Although the construction of these bridges has curtailed the extent of the road during the past year, it is better, I venture to think, to complete it thoroughly as it advances, by opening the communication by bridges where necessary, than to leave it all but useless for the want of them. The road has already had a decided effect upon the commerce of the country; many more people now come into the town with produce, and several small shops have been established along it.

19. The instructions sent to me for the settlement of the long-pending question of titles to land have already produced much moral good, by enabling me to ease the public mind with regard to the tenure of land. The liberal terms granted by the Government with regard to provisional concessions have given universal satisfaction to all the sensible portion of the population. Proprietors have now a feeling of confidence and security with respect to their land which they never had previously, and are all most anxious for a final settlement.

20. This settlement, under existing arrangements, will take a very long time, with only one surveyor available for the work,—at least ten or twelve years, and at a cost to the Government, taking the surveyor's salary at 300*l.* per annum, of between three and four thousand pounds. The major portion of properties throughout the group are held upon provisional concessions, and the mass of smaller ones are at the back of those on the coast line, extending to the hypotenuse of the mountains; a limit that has never been at all clearly defined.

The survey of these small properties will take infinitely more time, and will give infinitely more trouble, than that of those on the plateaux below, often of twenty times their value. It would give great satisfaction to the landholders, and be more economical to the Government, were the necessary work, by the employment of more surveyors, compressed into a shorter period than that above calculated.

21. The comparatively small amount of crime committed during the past year is a good sign of the increasing prosperity of the dependency, and of the facility with which any man who is willing to work can live. The only serious crime was the murder of an Indian merchant; and although it was not legally proved, there could be no moral doubt that it was perpetrated by three Indians who had come here from Mauritius, and who were especially interested in the death of the victim.

22. As a general rule, the people are contented, quiet, and prospering, and but few instances of real destitution have come to my knowledge. The very small demand for vacoa bags has made a very considerable difference to the large class of individuals by whom they were manufactured, as there was not, till late in the year, any other minor industry to replace it. At present any man, woman, or child can make a living by picking coir, of which any quantity will be readily bought. This will prove a most important addition to the commerce of the Islands, as the supply of the raw material, now allowed to rot in heaps on all the plantations, is almost inexhaustible. The demand for cocoa-nut fibre in Europe has greatly increased of late, especially in France, to which country all that is at present collected here will eventually be sent.

23. Almost the only cases of real destitution are found amongst the very old emancipated slaves; a race now, happily, very nearly extinct. They habitually live by themselves, and so long as they can attend to the cultivation of a minute patch of land, and can make occasional visits to the town for their supplies, require nothing. So soon, however, as illness overtakes them, they are quite helpless, and many die in their distant huts, with no one to look after them, except a neighbour nearly as helpless as themselves. If they can struggle into the town they are taken care of; but it is impossible to exercise any

SEYCHELLES
ISLANDS.

surveillance over the health of a people living in the remote valleys high up on the mountain sides. As a class, they have done no good to themselves or to the country since they were emancipated; and it is just as well that such a class, when extinct, will not again exist here. The succeeding generation of old people, both Creoles and Africans, will all have families to look after them when helpless from age or infirmity.

24. The general health of the dependency has been unusually good during the past year. Notwithstanding the increased population, the deaths during 1866 amounted to only 171; nine less than in 1865. The births for 1866 are 342; 48 in excess of those in the preceding year. Sickness of an epidemic or endemic nature is still quite unknown here. In Port Victoria the improved state of health may in a great measure be attributed to the never-failing and very accessible supply of pure water laid on in the centre of the town, the fountain placed there giving 2,400 gallons per hour, day and night; to the opening of the new streets; and to the strict enforcement of sanitary regulations, formerly left all but in abeyance. Under its present aspect nothing like dirt or squalor is to be seen anywhere, and it may be safely asserted that no town in any part of the tropics can be compared to this in point of healthiness.

25. To the best of my knowledge, and in the opinion of the Government medical officer, leprosy is distinctly on the decline in these Islands, and is in a great measure restricted to a few families, in nearly all of which consanguineous marriages has been the rule and not the exception. The majority of the inmates at Ile Curieuse are not lepers, but are suffering from elephantiasis, hydrocele, and the cutaneous ailments partially allied to leprosy, unfortunately common among these people. The last of the original patients of the establishment, sent there in 1827, died not long ago at the age of 97. Among the Africans brought here during the past six years, but one case has occurred; that of an African girl, whose leg was amputated on account of injuries received in 1862, and who was sent to Curieuse by my predecessor. She was perfectly healthy when she arrived, but is now an unmistakeable leper. How the dreadful disease was contracted it is impossible to ascertain.

26. During the past year the port was visited twenty-eight times by men-of-war, English, French, and American, but chiefly English, and thirty-six times by merchant vessels, two direct from England. This does not include the Messageries Imperiales steamers, and is a larger number than has ever yet been registered by the port officer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SWINBURNE WARD,
Civil Commissioner.

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

323

MARRIAGES (SOUTH AUSTRALIA).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 6 July 1868; for,—

COPY “ of the Act lately passed in *South Australia* to consolidate and amend
the LAWS relating to MARRIAGES in the Province of *South Australia*: ”

“ And, of the DESPATCH of the Secretary of State to the Officer administering
the Government of the Colony relating to the Act.”

Colonial Office, }
13 July 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

ANNO TRICESIMO PRIMO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ. A.D. 1867.

No. 15.

AN ACT to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Marriages in the
Province of South Australia.

[Assented to 19th December 1867.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Marriages in the Province of South Australia, and to remove doubts which have arisen as to the validity of certain marriages heretofore celebrated in the said Province—Be it therefore Enacted, by the Governor-in-Chief of the Province of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of the said Province, in this present Parliament assembled, as follows :

Preamble.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as “ The Marriage Act, 1867.”
2. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of March 1868.
3. Except as hereinafter provided, the Ordinances and Acts specified in the first Schedule hereto shall, to the extent therein expressed, be, and the same are, hereby repealed.

Short title.

Commencement of Act.

Repeal of Acts.

4. Where, before the coming into operation of this Act, any offence has been wholly or partly committed against any of the Ordinances or Acts so repealed, or any penalty thereunder has been incurred, or any act or thing has been done or registered, or rule, regulation, order, or appointment has been made under the authority of any such Ordinance or Act, or where any marriage has been declared valid under any such Ordinance or Act, or where, in respect of any matter or thing done prior to the coming into operation of this Act, any right, liability, privilege, or protection accrues or has accrued, or any action, suit, prosecution, or other proceeding has been commenced, every such offence shall be dealt with and punished, and every such penalty shall be recovered, and every such act, thing, rule, regulation, order, and appointment, and every such marriage, and every such right, liability, privilege, and protection shall continue and be in force, and every such action, suit, prosecution, or other proceeding shall be prosecuted, continued, or defended in the same manner as if such Ordinances or Acts were not repealed.

Saving of rights and duties under repealed Acts.

Validity of previous marriages.

5. Every marriage in fact heretofore *bonâ fide* celebrated in the said Province, shall be deemed a legal and valid marriage to all intents and purposes, provided that no lawful impediment existed at the time of such marriage.

Registrar General of Births, &c., and Deputy Registrar to be Registrar General and Deputy Registrar of Marriages, &c.

6. The present Registrar General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, and the present Deputy Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, shall be Registrar-General and Deputy Registrar of Marriages respectively under this Act, and the present office in the City of Adelaide for keeping a General Register of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in the said Province shall be the office in the City of Adelaide for keeping a General Register of Marriages under this Act: Provided that it shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time, as he shall think fit, to appoint persons to and remove persons from the office of Registrar General of Marriages and Deputy Registrar of Marriages, and to appoint any other building to be the office for keeping such General Register of Marriages; and all such appointments, and removals, and alterations shall be duly notified in the "Government Gazette."

District Registrars of Births, Deaths, and Marriages to be District Registrars of Marriages.

7. All districts which, at the time of the coming into operation of this Act, or from time to time thereafter, are or shall be duly proclaimed to be Registrar's Districts, under provisions of an Act, No. 3, of 1855-56, intituled "An Act to amend the Law relating to registering of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in the Province of South Australia," or of any Act hereafter to be in force for regulating the registration of births and deaths, shall respectively be the districts of the District Registrars of Marriages under this Act; and all District Registrars of Births, Deaths, and Marriages for the time being, duly appointed and acting under the provisions of the said Act, or any such other Act as aforesaid, shall be District Registrars of Marriages under this Act for the respective districts to which they shall have been or shall be respectively appointed.

Officiating ministers under repealed Acts to be officiating ministers under this Act.

8. Every minister of religion whose name shall at the time when this Act comes into operation be found entered as an officiating minister in the book kept by the Registrar General, as prescribed by the 32nd and 33rd sections of the Act, No. 12, of 5 Vict., intituled "An Act for regulating Marriages in the Province of South Australia," and who shall have duly entered his name upon the roll kept by the Registrar General for that purpose, as prescribed by the eighth section of the said Act, No. 3, of 1855-56, and whose appointment has not heretofore been cancelled, shall (unless any such minister of religion as aforesaid shall have ceased statedly to officiate as such) continue to be an officiating minister under the provisions of this Act, and shall have, perform, and exercise the same powers, duties, and authorities, and be subject and liable to the like penalties in all respects as if he had been enrolled as an officiating minister under the provisions in that behalf hereinafter contained.

Ministers of religion may apply to be enrolled as officiating ministers.

9. Every minister of religion, statedly officiating as such, who shall hereafter desire to have his name enrolled as an officiating minister under the provisions of this Act, shall forward to the Governor an application to be so enrolled, together with the testimony of some person already on the roll hereinbefore mentioned, in evidence of his qualification as a minister of religion, and that he is then statedly officiating as such; or he shall forward with such application a certificate from twenty householders, stating that he is and has been the six months preceding statedly officiating as the minister of the congregation of which they are members.

Governor may direct enrolment of ministers of religion as officiating ministers.

10. Upon the receipt of such application supported as hereinbefore mentioned, the Governor may issue an instrument under his hand, directing the Registrar General to enrol such applicant as an officiating minister, with power to perform the ceremony of marriage within the meaning of this Act, or with power to grant licenses for marriages, and to perform the ceremony of marriage within the meaning of this Act. And the Registrar General shall, upon such instrument being presented to him, and upon the person therein named signing the roll hereinbefore mentioned, make an entry of such instrument in a book to be kept by him, and shall file and preserve the same among the records of his office, and shall give public notice in the "Government Gazette" of the enrolment of such person as an officiating minister.

11. The Governor may also in exceptional cases, such as when any religious body or society may have no officiating minister, and where, in distant parts of the said Province, there is no officiating minister or other person authorized to celebrate marriages there resident, by an instrument under his hand, direct the Registrar General to enter any person to be therein named as an officiating registrar under this Act; and the Registrar General shall, upon such instrument being presented to him, and upon the person therein named signing the roll hereinbefore prescribed to be signed by officiating ministers, make an entry of such instrument in the book before mentioned, and shall file and preserve the same among the records of his office, and shall give public notice in the "Government Gazette" of the enrolment of such person as an officiating registrar; and all such officiating registrars shall have, exercise, and perform the like powers, authorities, and duties in reference to granting of marriage licenses, and the celebration and registration of marriages as are by this Act conferred or imposed upon officiating ministers.

Governor may also appoint officiating registrars.

12. Upon a complaint in writing being preferred to the Governor by the Registrar General, or by any officiating minister then on the roll through the Registrar General, setting forth that any officiating minister or officiating registrar has ceased to be qualified to be an officiating minister or officiating registrar, or has been guilty of any wilful irregularity in the issue of any license, or in the celebration of any marriage, or has neglected to forward the certificate or reports required by this Act, the Governor may call upon the person so complained of, to disprove the statements contained in such complaint; and if such person shall not, to the satisfaction of the said Governor, disprove the charges so preferred against him, and in the case of an officiating minister shall not also show that he still continues steadily to officiate as a minister of religion, the said Governor may, by an instrument under his hand, direct that the enrolment of such person as officiating minister or officiating registrar, as the case may be, shall be cancelled; and thereupon the Registrar General shall make an entry of such enrolment being so cancelled, and shall notify the same in the "Government Gazette," and upon such notification appearing in the said "Gazette," as aforesaid, the powers and authorities of such officiating minister or officiating registrar respectively, under this Act, shall absolutely cease and be determined.

Governor may direct enrolment of officiating ministers to be cancelled.

13. The Registrar General shall cause to be published in the "Government Gazette" on the Thursday next preceding the day on which this Act shall come into operation, a list containing the names of all those persons then entered in the book, and who shall have duly entered their names in the roll hereinbefore mentioned, as officiating ministers under the said repealed Acts, or either of them, who may then be alive, and whose appointments may remain uncanceled: Provided that the said Registrar General shall omit from such list the names of any persons so entered as officiating ministers, who, at the time aforesaid, are not steadily officiating as ministers of religion; and it shall be the duty of the said Registrar General to institute such inquiries as to him may seem necessary for the purpose of enabling him to exclude from such list the names of all such persons as may not, at the time aforesaid, be actually steadily officiating as ministers of religion; and the production of the "Gazette" containing such list shall be conclusive evidence for all purposes that the persons whose names are included in such list were, at the date of such publication, officiating ministers under the provisions of this Act.

Registrar General to publish list of ministers on roll as officiating ministers.

14. All notifications published by the Registrar General in the "Government Gazette," of the enrolment of any officiating minister or officiating registrar, or the cancellation of any such enrolment, shall be conclusive evidence thereof for all purposes.

Notification of appointment of officiating minister published in "Gazette" to be conclusive evidence.

15. The following persons, and none other, may celebrate marriages in the said Province:—

Persons authorised to celebrate marriages.

I. Officiating ministers and officiating registrars duly enrolled under the foregoing provisions:

II. The Registrar-General of Marriages, the Deputy Registrar of Marriages, and all District Registrars of Marriages as hereinbefore mentioned, within their respective districts:

Provided that no officiating minister or officiating registrar shall be compelled to perform the marriage ceremony in cases where he may have a conscientious objection to do so.

Marriage to be by license or certificate.

16. Before any marriage can be celebrated, the parties must either have obtained a certificate from the Registrar General, or some District Registrar of Marriages, or they must have obtained a license, as hereinafter mentioned.

If by certificate parties to give notice.

17. In case it is desired to obtain a certificate from the Registrar General, or any District Registrar, one of the parties shall, under his or her hand, give notice, in the form in the Second Schedule hereto, to the Registrar General, or to the District Registrar of the district, within which the parties shall have dwelt for not less than seven clear days then next preceding, or if the parties dwell in different districts, they shall give the like notice to the District Registrar of each district, as the case may be, and shall therein state the name and surname and the profession or condition of each of the parties intending marriage, the dwelling place of each of them, and the time that each of them has dwelt therein, and the building, or office, or private house in which the marriage is to be celebrated.

One of the parties make declaration.

18. The person giving such notice as aforesaid shall make a solemn declaration, in the form contained in the Third Schedule hereto, which solemn declaration the Registrar General and the District Registrars respectively are hereby empowered and required to take, and any such Registrar General or District Registrar, who shall knowingly or wilfully issue a certificate as hereinafter mentioned, before such declaration shall be made, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Registrars to keep notices in a book.

19. The Registrar General and all District Registrars respectively shall file all such notices and keep them with the records of their office, and shall also forthwith enter a true copy of all such notices fairly into a book, to be furnished by the Government, and to be called, "The Marriage Notice Book," and the marriage notice book shall be open at all reasonable times to all persons desiring to inspect and search the same, and for every such entry or search there shall be paid to the Registrar General or District Registrar a fee of 2s. 6d.: Provided that before the copy of any such notice shall be so entered in the notice book, some credible person known to the Registrar General or District Registrar respectively shall satisfy him, if he think fit to require it, of the truth of the several particulars set forth in such notice.

After 14 days certificate of notice to be given, if not forbidden.

20. After the expiration of 14 clear days from the entry of such notice, the Registrar-General or District Registrar, upon being requested so to do by, and on behalf of the party by whom the notice was given, shall issue under his hand a certificate in the form in the Fourth schedule hereto: Provided that no lawful impediment be shown to the satisfaction of the Registrar General or District Registrar why such certificate should not issue, and provided that the issue of such certificate shall not have been sooner forbidden in manner hereinafter mentioned by any person or persons authorised in that behalf as hereinafter is provided, and every such certificate shall state the particulars set forth in the notice, the day on which the notice was entered, and that the full period of fourteen clear days has elapsed since the entry of such notice, and that the issue of such certificate has not been forbidden by any person or persons authorised in that behalf; and for every such certificate the Registrar General or District Registrar shall be entitled to receive a fee of 1s.

Issue of certificate may be forbidden.

21. Any person whose consent to a marriage is required by this Act, may and is hereby authorised to forbid the issue of any such certificate by writing the word "Forbidden" opposite to the entry of the notice of such intended marriage in the marriage notice book, and by subscribing thereto his or her name and place of abode, and his or her character in respect of either of the parties by reason of which he or she is so authorised; and on the entry of such prohibition in the notice book, the Registrar General or District Registrar shall forthwith inform one or both of the parties intending marriage of the same, and in case the issue of any such certificate shall have been so forbidden, no certificate as aforesaid shall be issued.

Registrars may grant licenses.

22. The Registrar General and all District Registrars within their respective districts shall have power to grant licenses for marriages under this Act, which licenses

licenses shall be in the form contained in the Fifth Schedule hereto; and for every such license such Registrar General or District Registrar shall be entitled to receive from the party requiring the same the sum of 3 £.

23. All officiating ministers and officiating registrars shall have power to grant licenses for marriages under this Act, which licenses shall be in the form contained in the Fifth Schedule hereto. Officiating ministers may grant licenses.

24. Before any marriage, whether the same is to be celebrated in pursuance of a license or a certificate as hereinbefore mentioned, shall take place, both the parties thereto shall make and sign a declaration in the form in the Third Schedule hereto, which declaration the Registrar General, and all District Registrars, officiating ministers, and officiating registrars are hereby empowered and required to take, and any Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, who shall knowingly and wilfully celebrate any marriage before such declaration shall have been made and signed, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Both parties to sign declaration before marriage.

25. If either party to any intended marriage, not being a widower or a widow, shall be under the age of 21 years, no certificate authorising such marriage shall be issued, nor shall any license for such marriage be granted without the production to the Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, as the case may be, of the written consent of the parent or guardian of the said minor to the said marriage: Provided that if the applicant for such certificate or license shall, to the satisfaction of such Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, show that such parent or guardian is not resident in the said Province, or shall assign other satisfactory grounds for not having obtained such written consent, the same may, in the discretion of such Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, be dispensed with; and thereupon such certificate or license may be issued as if such parties were both of full age. Minors to have written consent of parent or guardian.

26. Any person may enter a caveat with the Registrar General, or any District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, against the grant of a license for the marriage of any person named therein; and if any caveat be entered with the Registrar General, or any District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, such caveat being duly signed by or on behalf of the persons who enter the same, together with his or her place of residence, and the ground of objection on which his or her caveat is founded, no license shall be granted until such Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, shall have examined into the matter of the caveat, and be satisfied that it ought not to obstruct the grant of the license for the said marriage, or until the caveat be withdrawn by the party entering the same: Provided always, that in the case of a District Registrar refusing the grant of a license, the person applying for the same shall have a right to appeal to the Registrar General, who shall thereupon either confirm the refusal or direct the grant of the license. Caveat may be lodged against the grant of a license.

27. Every person who vexatiously, and without any reasonable or probable cause, shall enter a caveat against the grant of a license for the marriage of any person, or shall forbid the issue of a certificate in manner before mentioned, shall be liable for the costs of the proceedings, and for damages to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction by the party against the grant of a license for whose marriage such caveat shall have been entered, or whose marriage shall have been forbidden. Persons vexatiously entering caveat to be liable for damages and costs.

28. Upon the delivery of any such license as aforesaid to the person authorised to perform the ceremony of marriage mentioned therein, and whether such person be the Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, granting such license, or not, or upon the production of any certificate of the Registrar General, or any District Registrar, under the foregoing provisions, the marriage of the parties named therein may be celebrated at the place named in such license or certificate, and in the presence of the person authorised to perform the ceremony. Marriage on the delivery of license.

Marriage how to be celebrated.

29. All marriages may be celebrated in the place, and between and by the parties described in the license or certificate, according to such form and ceremony as they may think fit to adopt: Provided that such marriage shall take place with open doors, and that in some part of the ceremony, and in the presence of the Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, conducting the same and two or more witnesses, each of the parties shall say to the other—

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, A. B., do take thee, C. D., to be my lawful wedded wife (or husband)."

Or words to that effect: Provided also, that there be no lawful impediment to the marriage of such parties.

Marriages to be within three months from issue of license or certificate.

30. Unless a marriage shall be had and celebrated in pursuance of any license or certificate granted or issued as aforesaid, within three calendar months after the grant of such license, or issue of such certificate, such license or certificate shall be void and of no effect, and no marriage shall be had and celebrated in pursuance thereof; and any person knowingly and wilfully celebrating any such marriage, after the expiration of the period aforesaid, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Fees to be paid to registrars.

31. The Registrar General, and all District Registrars, shall be entitled for every marriage celebrated by him or them respectively under this Act, to receive from the parties married the sum of 10 s.

Forms to be furnished to registrars, &c.

32. The Registrar General shall furnish to every District Registrar, officiating minister, and officiating registrar, such printed forms as may be necessary to enable them to register marriages, in conformity with, and otherwise to observe the provisions of this Act.

Marriage certificates.

33. The Registrar General, and every District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, shall make out, in triplicate, a certificate, according to the form contained in the Sixth Schedule hereto, of every marriage celebrated or contracted before him, and the parties contracting such marriage, and also the witnesses thereto, shall sign or attest their names and places of abode on such certificates, and such Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, shall also sign his name, and shall deliver one of such certificates, immediately after the marriage, to one of the parties thereto, and shall also, within seven days, forward another copy of such certificate to the Registrar of the District in which such marriage shall have been celebrated or contracted, and the triplicate, together with the certificate or license authorising the marriage, the declaration or declarations signed by the parties to the marriage, and the written consent of the parent or guardian (if any), to the Registrar General, under a penalty for every failure so to do, of a sum not exceeding 10 l.; and the Registrar General, and every District Registrar, shall carefully preserve all such certificates, numbering them in consecutive series according to their dates, and shall from time to time cause them, so arranged, to be bound up in convenient volumes to constitute respectively the General and District Registers of Marriages; and the Registrar General shall also preserve amongst the records of his office, all such certificates, licenses, and declarations forwarded to him as aforesaid.

Quarterly return of marriages to be made to the Registrar General.

34. Every District Registrar, officiating minister, and officiating registrar shall once in each period of three calendar months, upon a day to be for that purpose by publication in the "Government Gazette" appointed, or within seven days thereafter, forward to the Registrar General a report authenticated by his signature of all marriages by him performed during the preceding three calendar months: distinguishing such, if any, as may have been performed by license, or a *nil* account if no marriages have been performed by him within such period; and if he shall fail to make such report within such time, or shall make a false report, he shall be subject to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds.

Index to be kept.

35. The Registrar General and every District Registrar shall cause indexes of the registry books in his office to be made and kept with the other records of his office, and every person shall be entitled at all reasonable hours to search the said indexes, and to have a certified copy of any entry or entries in the said register-books under the hand of the Registrar General or District Registrar

payment

payment of the fees hereinafter mentioned, that is to say—For any general search the sum of 2 s. 6d.; and for any particular search the sum of 1 s.; and for every such certified copy the sum of 2 s. 6d.

36. All certified copies of entries purporting to be under the hand and seal of the Registrar General or of any District Registrar as aforesaid shall be received as *prima facie* evidence in any Court of Justice within the said Province of the marriage to which the same relates without any further or other proof of such entry; and upon a certificate being made by the Registrar General that the register of marriages for any specified period, and for any particular district is lost or destroyed, then and in all such cases the certificate of such Registrar-General, under his hand and seal, shall be received as evidence in any Court of Justice within the said Province of the matter to which the same relates without further proof being required, and for every certified copy so given under seal the Registrar General or District Registrar shall be entitled to receive a fee of 7 s. 6d.

Certified copies to be evidence.

37. No marriage in fact shall be avoided by reason only of any defect or error in the declaration made respecting the same, where the identity of the parties is not in question, or of any defect or error in the issue of the certificate or license under the authority of which the same is celebrated; nor shall it be necessary, in support of any such marriage, to give any proof of the actual dwelling of either of the parties, previous to the marriage, within the district wherein such marriage was celebrated, or of the consent of any person thereto whose consent is required by law, nor shall any evidence be given to prove the contrary in any suit touching the validity of such marriage.

Defects in observance of formalities not to invalidate marriage.

38. The production of the General Register of Marriages or any District Register of Marriages hereinbefore directed to be kept shall be conclusive evidence of the validity of all marriages entered or registered therein; and no marriage so entered or registered shall be impeached or impeachable in any Court or Courts on the ground of the non-observance of any of the formalities, by this Act required to be observed, or upon any other ground or pretence whatever.

Registration to be conclusive evidence of valid marriage.

39. Any person who shall knowingly and wilfully make any false declaration, or sign any false notice or certificate, for the purpose of procuring any marriage, marriage license, or Registrar General's or District Registrar's certificate, and any person who when entering a caveat as before mentioned, or forbidding the issue of any such certificate as aforesaid, shall knowingly and wilfully make or sign any false statement, or shall falsely represent himself or herself to be a person whose consent to such marriage is necessary, knowing such statement or representation to be false, shall suffer the penalty of perjury.

Person making false declaration or statement liable to the penalties of perjury.

40. Every person who shall knowingly and wilfully celebrate any marriage in the said Province in any place other than the building, office or private house specified in the certificate or license authorising such marriage, or after the expiration of three calendar months from the date of such certificate or license, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Persons unduly celebrating marriage guilty of a misdemeanor.

41. Any Registrar General or District Registrar, who shall knowingly and wilfully issue any certificate for marriage after the expiration of three calendar months after the notice shall have been entered by him as hereinbefore provided, or before the expiration of 14 days after the entry of the notice, or shall issue any certificate the issue of which shall have been forbidden as aforesaid, by any person authorised to forbid the issue thereof, or who shall knowingly and wilfully register any marriage which has been celebrated in deliberate contravention of the provisions of this Act, and every Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, who shall knowingly and wilfully celebrate any such marriage shall be guilty of felony.

Registrar wilfully contravening the Act guilty of felony.

42. Any person duly authorised or required under this Act to issue licenses or certificates for or to celebrate, or be present at the celebration of marriage, who shall knowingly and wilfully, without the written consent of parent or guardian (unless such consent has been dispensed with as hereinbefore provided by Section 25), issue any license or certificate for, or celebrate or be present at,

Penalty for wilfully celebrating marriage without consent of parents, where either of the parties under age, 500*l*.

any marriage wherein one or both of the parties has or have not attained the full age of 21 years, shall, for every such offence, forfeit and pay a sum not less than 50 £, and not exceeding 500 £.

Furnishing false information to be inserted in certificate to be perjury.

43. The Registrar General, District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, before whom any marriage is celebrated, according to the provisions of this Act, may ask the parties to be married, the several particulars touching such marriage required to be entered in the certificate thereof, as hereinbefore provided; and every person who shall wilfully make, or cause to be made, any false statement touching any of the particulars required to be known and entered as aforesaid, shall be subject to the same pains and penalties as if he were guilty of perjury.

Penalty for not duly registering marriages, and for losing registers.

44. Every District Registrar, officiating minister, or officiating registrar, who shall neglect or refuse to forward to the Registrar General and District Registrar the certificate of any marriage celebrated by him, as hereinbefore directed, and every District Registrar who shall refuse, or without reasonable cause omit to register any marriage of which he shall have had due notice as aforesaid, and every person having the custody of any register-book, or certified copy thereof, who shall lose or injure the same, or allow the same to be injured whilst in his keeping, shall forfeit and pay a sum not less than 5 £, and not exceeding 50 £, for every such offence.

Destruction, or alteration, or forgery of register to be felony.

45. Every person who shall wilfully destroy or injure, or cause to be destroyed or injured, any register-book, or any part or certified copy of any part thereof, or shall falsely make or counterfeit, or cause to be falsely made or counterfeited, any part of any such register-book or certified copy thereof, or shall wilfully insert or cause to be inserted in any register-book or certified copy thereof, any false entry of any marriage, or shall wilfully give any false certificate, or shall certify any writing to be a copy or extract of any register-book, knowing the same to be false in any part thereof, or shall forge or counterfeit the seal or signature of the Registrar General, or of any District Registrar, shall be guilty of felony.

Accidental errors may be corrected.

46. No person charged with the duty of registering any marriage, who shall discover any error to have been committed in the form or substance of any such entry, shall be therefore liable to any of the penalties aforesaid, if within one calendar month next after the discovery of such an error, in the presence of the parties married, or in the presence of the Registrar General, or District Registrar, and of two credible witnesses, who shall respectively attest the same, he shall correct the erroneous entry according to the truth of the case by entry in the margin, without any alteration of the original entry, and shall sign the marginal entry, and add thereunto the day of the month and year when such correction shall be made; and such District Registrar shall thereupon notify the particulars of such correction to the Registrar General, who shall make a marginal entry of such correction in the general register, affixing his signature, and the date of such correction.

Limitations of prosecution.

47. No prosecution under this Act shall be commenced except within the space of two years after the offence was committed.

In cases of fraudulent marriages the guilty party to forfeit all property accruing from the marriage.

48. If any valid marriage shall be had under the provisions of this Act by means of any wilfully false notice, certificate, declaration, or affirmation, made by either party to such marriage as to any matter to which a notice, certificate, declaration, or affirmation is herein required, it shall be lawful for the Attorney General to sue for a forfeiture of all estate and interest in any property accruing to the offending party by such marriage, and the proceedings thereupon, and the consequences thereof shall be similar to the proceedings provided in the like case with regard to marriages celebrated in England by license before passing of this Act, according to the rites of the Church of England.

Summary procedure.

49. All proceedings for the recovery of any pecuniary penalty by this Act imposed for any omissions, defaults, acts, or offences shall be had and taken, and may be heard and determined in a summary way, by any Special Magistrate or two Justices, under the provisions of an Ordinance of the Governor and Legislative Council, No. 6, of 1850, "To facilitate the performance of the duties of Justices of the Peace out of sessions with respect to summary convictions and orders," or of any Act hereafter to be in force relating to the duties of Justices with respect

to summary convictions and orders, and all convictions and orders may be enforced as in the said Ordinance, or in any other Act is or shall be provided.

50. There shall be an appeal from any conviction by any Special Magistrate or Justices for any offence against this Act, or from any order dismissing any information or complaint, which appeal shall be to the Local Court of Adelaide of Full Jurisdiction only, and the proceedings on such appeal shall be conducted in manner appointed by the said Ordinance No. 6, of 1850, for appeals to Local Courts, or any Act hereafter to be in force regulating such appeals; but the Local Court of Adelaide aforesaid may make such order as to the payment of the costs of appeal as it shall think fit, although such costs may exceed 10*l*.

Appeal to Adelaide local court of full jurisdiction.

51. The Local Court of Adelaide, upon the hearing of any appeal, may state one or more special case or cases for the opinion of the Supreme Court, and the Supreme Court shall hear and decide such special case or cases according to the practice of the Supreme Court on special cases, and the Supreme Court shall make order as to costs of any special case as to the said Court shall appear just; and any two or more Justices, or the Local Court of Adelaide, shall make an order in respect to the matters referred to the Supreme Court, in conformity with the certificate of the said Supreme Court, or of any Judge thereof; which order of the Justices or Local Court shall be enforced in manner provided for the enforcement of orders of Justices, under the said Ordinance No. 6, of 1850, or other Act as aforesaid; and save as herein provided, no order or proceeding of any Special Magistrate or Justices, or of any Local Court, made under the authority of this Act, shall be appealed against, or removed by *certiorari*, or otherwise, into the Supreme Court of the said Province.

Local court upon hearing of appeal may state special case.

52. All moneys received for penalties imposed for offences against this Act, shall be paid to the Treasurer, on behalf of Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, for the public uses of the said Province, and in support of the Government thereof.

Disposal of penalties.

In the name, and on behalf of the Queen, I hereby assent to this Act.

(signed) *D. Daly*, Governor.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Date of Ordinance or Act.	Title of Ordinance or Act.	Extent of Repeal.
5 Vict. No. 12 - - -	An Act for regulating Marriages in the Province of South Australia.	The whole.
1844, No. 4 - - -	An Ordinance to regulate Roman Catholic Marriages in South Australia.	The whole.
1852, No. 18 - - -	An Act to amend the Law of Marriage in the Province of South Australia.	The whole.
1862, No. 4 - - -	An Act to amend the Acts relating to Marriages in the Province of South Australia by extending certain provisions thereof to persons professing with the Society of Friends called Quakers.	The whole.
1855-6, No. 3 - - -	An Act to amend the Law relating to Registering of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in the Province of South Australia.	So much thereof as relates to marriages and the registration thereof.

PAPERS RELATING TO

SECOND SCHEDULE.

Notice of Marriage.

To the District Registrar of the District of _____ (or to the Registrar General).

I HEREBY give you notice, that a marriage is intended to be had within three calendar months from the date hereof between me and the other party herein-named and described (that is to say)—

Name.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Age.	Dwelling Place.	Length of Residence.	Building, Office, or Private House, where the Marriage is to be Solemnized.	District in which the other Party resides, when the Parties dwell in different Districts.
James Smith -	Widower -	Carpenter -	Of full Age	10, Hindley-street.	23 days -	—	—
Mary Green -	Spinster -	- - -	Minor -	Rundle-street	More than a month.	—	—

Witness my hand, this

day of

186 .

(signed) *James Smith.*

THIRD SCHEDULE.

Declaration.

I, *A. B.*, of _____ in the Province of South Australia, do solemnly and sincerely declare that, being about to contract marriage with one *C. D.*, of _____, I believe that there is not any impediment of kindred or alliance, or other lawful hindrance to the said marriage; and that I, the said *A. B.*, for the space of seven days last, have resided and had my abode in the District of _____, and that I, the said *A. B.*, and the said *C. D.*, are both above the age of twenty-one years, or that I, the said *A. B.*, not being a widower [or widow], am above [or under] the age of twenty-one years, and the said *C. D.*, not being a widow [or widower], is above [or under] the age of twenty-one years; but the written consent of parent [or guardian], whose consent to the said marriage is by law required, has been duly obtained, or but there is no person residing in this Province authorised to give consent to such marriage; or but for the reasons here assigned, namely [residence of parent not known, father in Lunatic Asylum, or lives in the Far North, or other sufficient reason] the consent of the person authorised by law to consent to such marriage cannot be obtained [or as the case may be]: And I make this solemn declaration, conscientiously believing the same to be true.

(signed) *A. B.*

Declared and subscribed by the above-named *A. B.*, at _____ this _____ day of _____ 18 , before me.

E. F.,

Registrar General, District Registrar, Officiating
Registrar, or Officiating Minister (as the case may be).

I, the above-named *C. D.*, of _____ declare that I conscientiously believe the above declaration to be true, and hereto subscribe my name.

(signed) *C. D.*

Declared and subscribed by the above-named *C. D.*, at _____ this _____ day of _____ 18 , before me.

E. F.,

Registrar General, District Registrar, Officiating
Registrar, or Officiating Minister (as the case may be).

FOURTH SCHEDULE.

District Registrar's Certificate (or Registrar General's Certificate).

I, *A. B.*, District Registrar of the District of _____ (or Registrar General), do hereby certify that on the _____ day of _____, notice was duly entered in the marriage notice-book of the said District (or at the General Registry Office for Marriages) of the marriage intended between the parties therein-named described, delivered under the hand of James Smith, one of the parties (that is to say)—

Name.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Age.	Dwelling Place.	Length of Residence.	Building, Office, or Private House, where the Marriage is to be Solemnized.	District in which the other Party resides, when the Parties dwell in different Districts.
James Smith -	Widower -	Carpenter -	Of full Age	10, Hindley- street.	23 days -	—	—
Mary Green -	Spinster -	- -	Minor -	Rundle-street	More than a month.	—	—

And that James Smith [*or Mary Green*] made solemn declaration before me, as required by law.

Date of notice
entered.

Date of certificate
given.

The issue of this certificate has not been forbidden by any person authorised to forbid the issue thereof.

Witness my hand, the

day of

18 .

(signed) *A. B.*,

District Registrar (or Registrar General).

This certificate will be void unless the marriage is solemnised on or before the
day of _____ 18 .

Form of Consent of Parent or Guardian.

I, _____ of _____ do hereby give my full consent to the proposed marriage between *A. B.* and *C. D.*, in virtue of my character as _____ to the said *A. B.* [*or C. D.*], who is under the age of 21 years, and for whose marriage with my consent is by law required.

(signed)

This

day of

18 .

FIFTH SCHEDULE.

License for Marriage.

WHEREAS you, *A. B.*, and you, *C. D.*, are minded to enter into a contract of marriage under the provisions of "The Marriage Act, 1867," and are desirous that the same may be speedily celebrated; and whereas you, *A. B.* [*or C. D.*], have signed a declaration that you believe there is no impediment of kindred or alliance, or other lawful hindrance to the said marriage; and that you, the said *A. B.* and *C. D.*, have had your usual place of abode within the district of _____ [*or districts of _____ and _____*]; and that you, the said *A. B.* and *C. D.*, are both above the age of 21 years [*or that you, the said A. B. or C. D., one or both (not being a widower or widow) are under the age of 21 years, and that the written consent of the parent or guardian, as by law required, has been obtained to the proposed marriage, or that there is no person in the Province qualified to give such consent, or that for sufficient reasons such consent cannot be had*]: I do hereby grant unto you full license, according to the authority given to me

by the above-recited Act, to proceed to the celebration of such marriage: Provided, that the marriage be celebrated by _____ in the presence of two witnesses, within three calendar months from the date hereof, in _____ (place).

Given under my hand, this _____ day of _____ 18 .

E. F.,

Registrar General, District Registrar, Officiating
Registrar, or Officiating Minister (as the case may be).

SIXTH SCHEDULE.

Certificate of Marriage.

18 .		Married in the District of .						
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname to be Written in Full.	Age.	Condition.	Trade or Calling.	Residence at Time of Marriage.	Name and Surname of Fathers of both Parties.	Place in which Celebrated.
2	9 January -	John Proby -	31	Bachelor -	Farmer -	} Mitcham.	Edward Proby.	
		to Ellen Smith -	22	Spinster -	- -		Walter Smith.	
				Name.	Trade or Calling.	Residence.		
This Marriage was celebrated between us }		John Proby	{ In the presence of us	William Gull	Shoemaker -	Goodwood -	} Witnesses.	
		Ellen Smith		Thomas Parker	Farmer -	Mitcham -		

The above-named John Proby and Ellen Smith were duly married by or before me, at the time and place above named, and in the presence of the witnesses whose signatures are above written. Witness my hand, this _____ day of _____ 18 .

E. F.,

Registrar General, District Registrar, Officiating
Registrar, or Officiating Minister (as the case may be).

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to the Officer Administering the Government of South Australia.

(No. 14.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 6 June 1868.

I HAVE had under my consideration the Act passed by the Legislature of South Australia, entitled "An Act to consolidate and amend the laws relating to marriages in the Province of South Australia," a transcript of which accompanied Sir D. Daly's Despatch, No. 67, of the 21st of December.

The 38th section of this Act will admit of being so construed as to make registration conclusive of the validity of a marriage, and accordingly to protect every marriage which has been duly registered from being impeached in any court of justice on the ground of nullity by reason of a pre-existing lawful impediment to such marriage. The Imperial statute, however, which was passed in 1865 (28 and 29 Vict. c. 64), to remove doubts respecting the validity of certain marriages contracted in Her Majesty's Possessions abroad, has expressly provided that, no Colonial law establishing the validity of any marriage in a colony, shall have effect within all parts of Her Majesty's Dominions, unless both of the parties thereto were, according to the law of England, competent to contract

contract the same. It is very probable that the full effect of the 38th section may have escaped the observation of your Legislature, and I have to instruct you to bring this Despatch under the notice of your Responsible Advisers, in order to suggest that the necessary steps may be taken for repealing or amending the section. In the meantime I shall refrain from submitting the Act to Her Majesty.

I observe that ample provision has been made in the two sections preceding the 38th, to facilitate the proof of every marriage in a court of justice, by declaring a certified copy of the entry in the register book of marriages, to be *prima facie* evidence of such marriage, as well as to prevent any marriage being invalidated by reason only of any neglect to observe some formality required by the Act to be observed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

MARRIAGES (SOUTH AUSTRALIA).

COPY of the Act lately passed in *South Australia* to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to MARRIAGES in the Province of *South Australia*; and, of the DESPATCH of the Secretary of State to the Officer administering the Government of the Colony relating to the Act.

(*Mr. Alderman Salomons.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
13 July 1868.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 2 July 1868;—for,

“COPY or EXTRACTS of CORRESPONDENCE between Governor *Kennedy* of
Vancouver Island, Governor *Seymour* of *British Columbia*, and the
Colonial Office, on the subject of a SITE for the CAPITAL of *British*
Columbia.”

Colonial Office, }
27 July 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

(*Mr. Graves.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
28 July 1868.

LIST OF PAPERS.

DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR.

No.		PAGE
1	(41) - - - 11 March 1867 - - - (Extract) - - -	3
2	(61) - - - 10 April 1867 - - - (Extract) - - -	3
3	(87) - - - 13 July 1867 - - - (Extract) - - -	4
4	(161) - - - 10 December 1867 - - - - - - -	8
5	(164) - - - 24 December 1867 - - - - - - -	9
6	(31) - - - 29 April 1868 - - - - - - -	9
7	(51) - - - 28 May 1868 - - - - - - -	12

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No.		PAGE
1	(49) - - - 17 August 1867 - - - - - - -	13
2	(67) - - - 1 October 1867 - - - - - - -	13
4	(46) - - - 9 July 1868 - - - - - - -	14

COPY or EXTRACTS of CORRESPONDENCE between Governor *Kennedy* of *Vancouver Island*, Governor *Seymour* of *British Columbia*, and the Colonial Office, on the subject of a SITE for the CAPITAL of *British Columbia*.

Despatches from the Governor.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor *Seymour* to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*, dated New Westminster, 11th March 1867. No. 41. Governor Seymour to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.
 “I HAVE the honour to forward the address and reply with which the present Legislative Session was opened,” 11 March 1867.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

EXTRACT of SPEECH of the GOVERNOR.

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

I SHALL address you by message on the subject of education and a few other topics of importance during the course of the session. One of these will probably be as to the cause of the selection made for the seat of Government of the United Colony. Up to within a few hours of meeting you, I had not the intention of touching upon it; but I am informed that the question creates an amount of interest which I cannot comprehend, but which appears to me a sign of great local depression. I shall address you on the subject by message.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

EXTRACT of Reply of the Legislative Council.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

WE shall look forward with anxiety to the messages which your Excellency has been pleased to promise us upon the important subjects of education and the seat of Government.

— No. 2. —

No. 2.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor *Seymour* to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*, dated New Westminster, 10th April 1867. No. 61. Governor Seymour to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.
 “I HAVE the honour to report that I closed the first session of the Legislature of the United Colony on the 2nd instant. I enclose copy of my speech.” 10 April 1868.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Encl. in No. 2.

EXTRACT of GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

IF, in spite of your resolution in favour of Victoria, I still hesitate on removing my abode and the seat of the Legislature from the spot established by law, you will understand that I consider the public faith and honour engaged on the one side, and possible expediency on the other. If, as some persons assert, the present uncertainty be found to be more detrimental to the public interests than any decision which may be arrived at, I shall come to that decision, and make public the recommendation I may lay before the Secretary of State. I, however, look confidently forward to the time when the centre of population will be found on the eastern side of the Cascade Range.

— No. 3. —

No. 3.

Governor Seymour
to the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
13 July 1867.

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor *Seymour* to His Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and Chandos, dated Victoria, 13th July 1867. No. 87.

Proclamation.
14 Feb. and
20 July 1859.

"I WISH the question of the seat of Government to be set at rest, and if your Grace can see your way to establish it at Victoria without injustice to those who have purchased land at New Westminster on the faith of the proclamations I enclose, I shall not offer one word of remonstrance. Either town will suit me equally well as a place of residence, and in the present financial condition of the Colony, I shall be very glad to have but one house to keep up. Victoria has made the most progress; consequently, perhaps, under existing depression, it would be well to concentrate our waning resources upon the spot where the greatest outlay has been made. I will not allow that Victoria possesses any natural advantages over New Westminster, but it is older and more developed as a town."

* * * * *

I enclose the message I addressed to the Legislative Council on the subject. The last paragraph simply means that I will not be controlled in my policy by meetings held in the Victoria Theatre.

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

PROCLAMATION

By His Excellency *James Douglas*, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander in Chief of British Columbia.

WHEREAS it is expedient to publish, for general information, the method to be pursued with respect to the alienation and possession of agricultural lands, and of lands proposed for the sites of towns in British Columbia, and with reference also to the places for levying shipping and customs duties, and for establishing a capital and port of entry in the said Colony;

Now therefore, I, *James Douglas*, Governor of the said Colony, do proclaim and declare as follows, viz.:

1. All the lands in British Columbia, and all the mines and minerals therein, belong to the Crown in fee.

2. The price of lands, not being intended for the sites of towns, and not being reputed to be mineral lands, shall be 10 s. per acre, payable one-half in cash at the time of the sale, and the other half at the end of two years from such sale. Provided that under special circumstances some other price, or some other terms of payment may from time to time be specially announced for particular localities.

3. It

3. It shall also be competent to the executive at any time to reserve such portions of the unoccupied Crown lands, and for such purposes as the executive shall deem advisable.

4. Except as aforesaid, all the land in British Columbia will be exposed in lots for sale, by public competition at the upset price above mentioned, as soon as the same shall have been surveyed and made ready for sale. Due notice will be given of all such sales. Notice at the same time will be given of the upset price and terms of payment when they vary from those above stated, and also of the rights reserved (if any) for public convenience.

5. All lands which shall remain unsold at any such auction may be sold by private contract at the upset price, and on the terms and conditions herein mentioned, on application to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

6. Unless otherwise specially notified at the time of sale, all such sales of Crown land shall be subject to such public rights of way as may at any time after such sale, and to such private rights of way, and of leading or using water for animals, and for mining and engineering purposes as may at the time of such sale be specified by the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

7. Unless otherwise specially announced at the time of sale, the conveyance of the land shall include all trees and all mines and minerals within and under the same, except mines of gold and silver.

8. When any "Ditch Privilege" shall be granted, there shall be included (unless excluded by express words) the right to lop, dress, or fell any trees standing on unoccupied Crown lands which, in the opinion of the proprietors of the ditch, might by their accidental fall or otherwise, endanger the safety of the ditch or any part thereof.

GOLD CLAIMS.

9. Until further notice, gold claims and mines shall continue to be worked, subject to the existing regulations.

CAPITAL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

10. It is intended with all dispatch to lay out and settle the site of a city to be the capital of British Columbia, on the right or north bank of Fraser River.

11. Plans of the city are intended to be prepared and published in the month of March next. Three-fourths of the whole number of lots, excluding the public reserves, will be submitted in lots to public competition, by auction, in the month of April. One-fourth of the whole number of lots, excluding the public reserves, will be reserved in blocks for purchasers in the United Kingdom, Her Majesty's Colonies in North America, and elsewhere. All of such last-mentioned lots which may not be disposed of in the United Kingdom, or Her Majesty's Colonies, other than British Columbia, will be submitted to public competition in this Colony, of which due notice will be given.

12. As the Government is desirous of concentrating the commercial interest of the Colony in and around the capital, purchasers of town lots in the said proposed capital who may be owners of town lots in Langley, under the late sale on the 25th November last, on which the whole amount of purchase-money has been paid to the Government, will if so disposed, be allowed to surrender the lots in Langley so purchased, and to have the price so paid to the Government allowed them as payment in full for a lot or lots purchased by them in the said proposed capital of an equal or less price in the aggregate, and as payment in part for lots in the said proposed capital of a greater price in the aggregate. Every such surrender must be executed and delivered in writing, addressed to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works in British Columbia, at Victoria, Vancouver Island, one week at least, previous to the day appointed for the intended sale.

13. The proposed capital will be declared to be a port of entry so soon as the necessary arrangements shall have been provided, which will be done with all convenient dispatch. Custom House officers will then be stationed there, and vessels will be able to proceed direct to Fraser River without touching at Victoria, or may clear at Victoria, at their option.

14. The whole of the river frontage will be laid out in a continuous road, the edge of which it is contemplated ultimately to convert into a public quay. No quay will, however, be at present constructed at the public expense, nor will the absolute property of the soil along the edge of the water be now alienated by the Crown. But the right to make and maintain quays of convenient sizes, and to demand certain tolls and rates for the use thereof, will be granted to private individuals for the space of seven years; such rights will be disposed of at public auction at or immediately after the sale of town lots, to the

bidder of the highest annual rent. No restrictions will be placed on the lessee as to the form or nature of the quays, except such as shall be necessary to protect the public safety and convenience.

Issued under the public seal of the Colony of British Columbia at Victoria, Vancouver Island, this fourteenth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, in the twenty-second year of Her Majesty's reign, by me,

James Douglas. (L. S.)

By his Excellency's command,
William A. G. Young, Acting Colonial Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Enclosure 2, in No. 3.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Encl. 2, in No. 3.

PROCLAMATION

By His Excellency *James Douglas*, Companion of the most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander in Chief of *British Columbia*, Vice Admiral of the same, &c.

WHEREAS Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to decide that the capital of British Columbia shall be styled the City of New Westminster;

Now therefore, I, James Douglas, do hereby declare and proclaim that the town heretofore called and known as Queensborough, and sometimes as Queenborough, in the Colony of British Columbia, shall from henceforth be called and known as New Westminster, and shall be so described in all legal processes and official documents.

Issued under the public seal of the said Colony at Victoria, Vancouver Island, this twentieth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, in the twenty-third year of Her Majesty's reign.

(signed) *James Douglas.*

By command of his Excellency,
William A. G. Young, Acting Colonial Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Enclosure 3, in No. 3.

Encl. 3, in No. 3.

(No. 37.)

MESSAGE.

Frederick Seymour.

THE Governor lays before the Legislative Council, for their information, certain petitions addressed to him, requesting that Victoria may be made, according to some of these papers, the capital, according to others, the seat of Government of the United Colony.

It is in no cavilling spirit that he points out that those first alluded to, appear to have been signed under a false impression. There is no intention of erecting public offices in New Westminster during the present condition of the colonial finances. The Government officers do not complain of the accommodation afforded to them; and if economy be alone considered, the retention of the seat of Government on the banks of the Fraser is to be preferred, inasmuch as a considerable outlay would be required to make the Government House at Victoria permanently habitable.

It is a matter of sincere regret to the Governor, that this vast and thinly-peopled territory should, in the early stage of its political existence, have been divided into two separate Colonies, and that two necessarily rival towns should have been founded in comparatively close proximity. His labours would now be lighter, and the Colony more prosperous, had the spare resources of the inhabitants been concentrated in the erection of one town of magnitude, of sufficient importance and attraction to retain during the winter the greater part of the unattached population of the Colony. He would not care if the site for the capital had been fixed where Victoria now stands, or on the Bay of Esquimalt, or at New Westminster. Nor could he, if the matter had been clearly understood by all, have objected to one scale of taxation being fixed, favourable to commerce, upon those who elected to

live in the chief town, or within a certain radius of it, and another upon those who took to other occupations in outlying districts. But it is not in order to express regret over the past, that the Governor now comments on the petitions he forwards.

New Westminster was, by proclamation, having the force of law, created the "Capital" of British Columbia. Her Majesty was invited to name the young city, and bestowed on it the designation it now bears. Though styled capital, it would not appear to have been the seat of Government, and the affairs of the mainland were directed from the chief town of the neighbouring insular Colony. Dissatisfaction, whether general or local the Governor is not in a position to say, ensued, and Her Majesty was advised to separate the Administration of the Government of British Columbia from that of Vancouver Island.

On his acceptance of office in this Colony, the present Governor was instructed to use all means in his power to bring about an entire union of the two Colonies, which the Secretary of State had reluctantly advised the Queen to disconnect. His Grace stated that it was the intention of the Government, that New Westminster should be the seat of Government of the Colony, if a fusion could be obtained, although he believed that Victoria would always retain commercial supremacy. The Legislature of the Mainland was accordingly called upon to provide a house, suitably furnished, for the residence of the Governor, while no such provision was required from Vancouver Island.

On his arrival in the Colony, the Governor found the sum of 10,000*l.* voted for the erection of public buildings in New Westminster, but with the cheerful concurrence of the public officers interested, he declined to lay out the money in that manner, choosing rather, in the general interest, to devote it to the lowering, by improvements in communication, the price of commodities in the gold districts.

The desire for union the Governor looked for, grew and matured in a section of the present Colony, until the Imperial Legislature considered the time had arrived for carrying into effect a policy Her Majesty's Government had steadily kept in view. Then British interests on the shores of the North Pacific were consolidated by Act of Parliament.

The Governor understands that, during the passage of the Act, it was stated in both Houses of Parliament, that New Westminster should be the seat of the general Government. An influential member of the Government informed him a few days before his departure from England—"I do not think it necessary that the Secretary of State should give you instructions as to the seat of Government. It is understood that New Westminster should be the capital, and that you should visit Victoria when you think necessary. But if you wish for definite orders, you will do best to ask for them in a formal letter to the Secretary of State." The Governor has no doubt that such an application would have resulted in a Royal decision in favour of New Westminster, and he may state that it was on his intercession alone that the order to sell the Government House at Victoria was withheld.

He is of opinion that the question as to the future seat of Government and of the assembling of the Legislature had better, ultimately, be decided on local recommendation. He would, however, not desire that the interests of New Westminster should be prejudiced by his regard for the general interests of the Colony having been superior to that he felt for the comfort of himself and public officers. Nor, on the other hand, would he wish any undue consideration to be given in favour of Victoria, on account of a large outlay having been made on a governor's residence, at a time when Vancouver Island could but ill afford it. He would take no advantage of the fact of one section of the Colony having asked for unconditional union, while the other stood aloof; nor would he maintain that any Proclamation, though having the force of law, may not be repealed when the community reaches a more advanced state of population and mode of government, but, for the present, he will leave matters as they are. He will watch, without preference or prejudice, over the general interests of the Colony as they may develop themselves in the uncertain future, and will be prepared to act upon his own judgment in the advice, if any, which he may lay before Her Majesty's Ministers.

He trusts that no immediate action may be urged upon him. He feels deeply the injury the Colony has sustained from political agitation, and now states plainly that should he find it necessary to set the present question at rest, he will humbly recommend to the Queen that he and his successors in office be commanded to reside permanently in the present capital of the Colony.

Government House, 27 March 1867.

— No. 4. —

No. 4.

(No. 161.)

Governor Seymour
to the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

10 Dec. 1867.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Seymour* to His Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and Chandos.

My Lord Duke,

New Westminster, 10 December 1867.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Grace's Despatch, No. 49, of the 17th August, respecting certain resolutions passed by the Legislative Council in favour of the seat of Government of the Colony being established at Victoria. The schedule of Despatches received by your Grace from me, which came by the same mail, shows me that my communication, No. 87,* of the 13th July, on this subject is already before you.

* Page 4.

2. The question is one really of very great difficulty in the present depressed condition of the Colony. Were either Victoria or New Westminster prosperous, it would matter but little where the Governor had his abode, and where the Legislative Council met.

3. New Westminster was proclaimed the capital of British Columbia. Vancouver Island prayed and agitated for admission on any terms into an union with the mainland Colony. Hence it would seem but natural that New Westminster should be the capital of the united Colony. Victoria, however, previous to the separation of the Colonies, was virtually the capital of both, and, as I have clearly stated in my Despatch above referred to, had concentrated many powerful influences.

4. If I may be permitted to set aside the consideration of Sir James Douglas's proclamation, and the apparent deviation from good faith towards the purchasers of town lots in New Westminster, I would state the case as follows :—

5. Victoria has the largest population, the richest shopkeepers, the largest Church endowments, the greatest trade, and is singularly favoured by the headquarters of the Pacific squadron being placed in the neighbouring harbour of Esquimalt. It is also unquestionably the most convenient place for communicating, if desirable, with the United States' authorities at San Francisco or Alaska. It has certain public offices of good appearance, but I am informed by Major General Moody, R.E., of the most unsatisfactory construction. Victoria possesses additionally a Government House of some pretensions, built at a cost of about 9,000 £, at the time when the Colony could not meet its indebtedness. This house is large and unfurnished, but being situated amongst rocks, so disposed as to keep off the sun, and not the cold breezes of the Straits, it is singularly unattractive. The walls have no paper to hide the cracks which the settlement of the older portions of the buildings have entailed upon them. There is no water on the grounds in summer; all for consumption has to be purchased.

6. New Westminster has, on the other hand, the disadvantage of being more out of the way of foreign callers, and being less connected with Her Majesty's Navy. It is away from the head-quarters of the Hudson's Bay Company's establishments, and from the abodes of the principal merchants of the Colony. It is but a small place as compared with Victoria. Its public offices are inferior; and if there be, as seems to be supposed in Victoria, a necessary connection between trade and Government, New Westminster must yield the palm to the older city. Here, however, the Government House is a cottage, without pretention, on the banks of the Fraser. It is a modest English house, nicely furnished, in a lovely situation, and abundantly supplied with water. I can hardly imagine a Governor of his own free will leaving it for the more ambitious building at Victoria, which fails to supply one of the necessities of comfort after an outlay of three times as much as the house from which I now write has cost.

7. It is held in certain petitions which have been presented to your Grace, and to which I shall refer in a separate Despatch, that the seat of Government should be where the population is most concentrated; yet such is not the opinion in the neighbouring states. Washington has not the trade or bustle of New York; Sacramento is insignificant as a settlement compared with San Francisco.

I might

I might go the round of the states by name, and show that the deliberative and executive government are removed from the great bustling and excitable centres of population. Our, to us here, eastern Colonies seem to have followed the same principle; Ottawa has not the trade of Quebec or Montreal, Frederickton that of St. John's.

8. As regards the political question connected with the seat of Government for British Columbia, I would observe, that I never saw a community more politically excitable and tempest-torn than that of Victoria. Your Grace's predecessors will have had but too great knowledge of the mode in which matters were conducted under the late legislative constitution of Vancouver Island. Under that at present existing people are quieter, but I do not think that the Council would be as much able to do their duty to the community at large when sitting in the feverish political atmosphere of Victoria, as if deliberating in the less troubled town of New Westminster.

9. If, however, we consider the question merely as how to please immediately the greater number of persons, the selection of Victoria as a capital would be most advisable.

10. I had written thus far when I received your Grace's Despatch, No. 67,* of the 1st October; the matter to which it refers shall have my most careful consideration, and I shall reply to it by the next opportunity.

* Page 13.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederick Seymour.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 164.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Seymour* to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

No. 5.
Governor Seymour
to the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
24 Dec. 1867.

My Lord Duke, New Westminster, 24 December 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward the following documents:

† A memorial from the president and members of the municipal council of New Westminster, addressed to your Grace, praying that this city may be declared formally the capital of the united Colony of British Columbia.

† The Enclosures
not printed.

Certain resolutions passed at a public meeting in Victoria, representing that that city had better be selected as the seat of government.

2. This latter is the complement of the papers which were forwarded to me in your Grace's Despatch, No. 67,† of the 1st October. These papers fairly represent the two communities.

† Page 13.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederick Seymour.*

— No. 6. —

(No. 31.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Seymour* to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

No. 6.
Governor Seymour
to the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
29 April 1868.
§ Page 13.

My Lord Duke, New Westminster, 29 April 1868.

IN obedience to the instructions conveyed in your Grace's Despatch, No. 67,§ of the 1st of October 1867, I have fixed upon a capital for the united Colony. The Message which I enclose will show that I have selected Victoria.

2. There is one circumstance in the affair which I trust you will pardon, and that is my having ventured to lay your Grace's Despatch before the Council.

The feeling existing in both New Westminster and Victoria is so strong on the subject of the seat of Government, that I felt it necessary when acting in the matter to invoke the assistance of a stronger power than my own in order to prevent disturbance.

3. I forwarded your Grace's Despatch in the Message I enclose. I received the following reply. I commenced my Despatch with the final conclusion.

4. I sincerely trust I have acted for the best. I well know I have secured but present tranquillity.

5. In my own heart, I must allow, there was a feeling in favour of the manly, respectable, loyal, and enterprising community established on the banks of the Fraser.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederick Seymour*

Encl. 1, in No. 6.

Enclosure 1, in No. 6.

MESSAGE No. 1.

Frederick Seymour.

* *Vide* page 13.

THE Governor lays before the Legislative Council a Despatch,* with Enclosures, from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, directing him to come to a decision as to the selection of a seat of Government for the united Colony of British Columbia. He adds a copy of his reply.

The Governor would feel greatly obliged by the Honourable Council assisting him with their advice on the subject. He wishes it to be clearly understood that Honourable Members holding official positions are requested freely to pronounce their opinion.

Government House, 30 March 1868.

Encl. 2, in No. 6.

Enclosure 2, in No. 6.

PURSUANT to the Order of the day, the consideration of his Excellency the Governor's Message No. 1 was taken up.

The Hon. Mr. Walkem moved, the Hon. Mr. Stamp seconding:

"That this Council having been requested by his Excellency the Governor to assist him with their advice in coming to a decision as to the selection of a seat of Government for the United Colony of British Columbia, is of opinion, after careful consideration of his Excellency's Message and its Enclosures on the subject, that Victoria is the place most suitable for the seat of Government of the United Colony."

Moved in amendment by the Hon. Mr. Robson, the Hon. Mr. Barnard seconding:

"Whereas, it is highly probable that this Colony will very shortly form a part of the new Dominion of Canada;

"And whereas, under Confederation, the seat of Government will naturally gravitate towards the centre of population on the mainland;

"And whereas, a considerable expenditure of revenue would be involved in the removal of the seat of Government to Victoria;

"And whereas, a reaction has already set in on the mainland against the removal of the seat of Government to Victoria;

"And whereas, it is probable that, were the seat of Government now removed to Victoria, the people on the mainland would be found, in less than 12 months, petitioning for its restoration to the mainland;

"And whereas, the frequent removal of the seat of Government involves great expense and inconvenience, and exerts a most injurious influence upon the public mind, by keeping up a continual agitation upon the subject, and destroying confidence;

"And whereas, the constitution of this Council is not of that representative character which should entitle it to deal with such a question as the removal of the seat of Government, where it has been established by law;

"And whereas, there is every reason to believe that a dissolution of this Council and a direct appeal to the country would demonstrate that a large majority of the *bonâ fide* colonists are averse to the removal of the seat of Government to Victoria;

"And

"And whereas, the removal of the seat of Government from where it is at present established would inflict serious injury upon an important community of British subjects, without securing any compensating advantages to the Colony at large;

"Be it therefore Resolved:

"That this Council is of opinion that it would be inexpedient to remove the seat of Government, at least until the Colony shall possess such full powers of self-government as will render its Legislature competent to deal with the question, and such fixity of population and permanent interests as may indicate, with some degree of clearness, a site which would prove to be permanently suitable."

Whereupon a debate arose.

On the amendment being put, the Council divided:

Ayes 5.
Messrs. Crease,
Hamley,
Barnard,
Robson,
Ball.

Noes 14.
Messrs. Smith,
Spalding,
Ker,
Elwyn,
Wood,
Walkem,
Macdonald,
Helmcken,
De Cosmos,
Stamp,
Pemberton,
Cox,
O'Reilly,
Trutch.

The names having been taken down by the clerk, pursuant to request.

So the amendment was lost.

The Hon. Mr. Robson rose to speak to a question of privilege.

The Hon. the Presiding Member ruled that it could not be brought before the Council until after the question now before it was disposed of.

On the original question being put, the Council again divided:

Ayes 14.
Messrs. Smith,
Spalding,
Ker,
Elwyn,
Wood,
Walkem,
Macdonald,
Helmcken,
De Cosmos,
Stamp,
Pemberton,
Cox,
O'Reilly,
Trutch.

Noes 5.
Messrs. Crease,
Hamley,
Barnard,
Robson,
Ball.

The names having been taken down by the Clerk, pursuant to request.

So it was carried in the affirmative, and resolved accordingly.

Enclosure 3, in No. 6.

MESSAGE No. 16.

Encl. 3, in No. 6.

Frederick Seymour.

THE Governor has received the Resolution of the Legislative Council, of the 2nd of April, expressing the opinion that Victoria is the place most suitable for the capital of the united Colony. Her Majesty's Government would seem to lean to the same opinion. Under these circumstances, the Governor will cause to be proclaimed, on the Queen's birthday, the selection of the capital within the town which bears Her Royal name.

Government House, 28 April 1868.

— No. 7. —

(No. 51.)

No. 7.
Governor Seymour
to the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

28 May 1868.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Seymour* to His Grace the
Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

My Lord Duke,

Victoria, 28 May 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of the Proclamation by which I declared
Victoria to be the capital of the united Colony.

2. So thoroughly has the question of the relative merits of the two principal
towns for the seat of Government been canvassed, that I do not think it neces-
sary that I should prolong the present Despatch.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Frederick Seymour*.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Encl. in No. 7.

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

(L. S.) *Frederick Seymour*.

PROCLAMATION

By His Excellency *Frederick Seymour*, Esq., Governor and Commander in Chief in and
over the Colony of *British Columbia* and its Dependencies, Vice Admiral and Ordinary
of the same, &c., &c.

WHEREAS, under and by virtue of a Proclamation, made and issued on the 14th day of
February 1869, the site of the present city of New Westminster was laid out as the Capital
of the Colony of British Columbia as then defined and existing.

And whereas, under and by virtue of an Act of Parliament, made and passed in the 29th
and 30th years of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled "The British
Columbia Act, 1866," and the Proclamation thereof made by the Governor of British
Columbia, upon the 19th day of November 1866, the formerly separate Colony of
Vancouver Island and its dependencies was united with the formerly separate Colony
of British Columbia and its dependencies, under the name of the Colony of British
Columbia:

And whereas it is expedient to declare the capital and seat of Government of the
said united Colony:

Now know ye, and I do hereby proclaim and declare as follows:—

From and after the date hereof, and until otherwise appointed by Her said Majesty
Queen Victoria, Her heirs and successors, the City of Victoria, in the Colony of
British Columbia, shall be and be deemed for all purposes whatsoever the capital and
seat of Government of the united Colony of British Columbia.

Given under my hand and the public seal of the Colony of British
Columbia, at Government House, Victoria, in the said Colony, this 25th day
of May, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight,
and in the 31st year of Her Majesty's reign.

By Command,

(signed) *William A. G. Young*.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 49.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor *Seymour*.

No. 1.
The Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos to Go-
vernor Seymour.
17 August 1867.

Sir,

Downing-street, 17 August 1867.

I HAVE had brought under my notice the resolutions apparently passed by the Legislative Council of British Columbia in March last, but respecting which I have not received any report from you, for placing the seat of Government at Vancouvers Island, but I have informed the gentlemen from whom I received them, that I must decline adopting any conclusion on the subject until the arrival of your report, which I conclude that I shall shortly receive.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos*.

— 2. —

(No. 67.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor *Seymour*.

No. 2.
The Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos to Go-
vernor Seymour.
1 October 1867.
* Page 4.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 October 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge your Despatch, No. 87*, of the 13th of July last, from which I learn that you are not yet prepared to recommend the adoption either of Victoria or of New Westminster as the capital of British Columbia.

I leave the determination of this question still in your hands, merely desiring that it may not be long delayed.

I take the opportunity of forwarding to you various documents† which may affect your judgment, but which I have not hitherto sent to you, because I was expecting from you a definite recommendation on the subject to which they related.

As the second paragraph of your Despatch contains something like an appeal to me for an expression of opinion, I think it requisite to say that the establishment of New Westminster as the capital of British Columbia did not, in my opinion, involve any pledge on the part of the Government that the site of that capital shall never be moved. It is, of course, always undesirable to disappoint natural expectations, and much consideration may be due to those who are so disappointed. But every land purchaser in New Westminster or any other locality, must be considered to buy his land, subject to the possible changes which the varying political or commercial interests of the whole community may from time to time render necessary.

I will add that, although I do not prescribe to you the choice of one or the other capital, you will be at liberty, in case you should decide in favour of Victoria, to quote the authority of the Home Government in support of that course.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos*.

— No. 3. —

(No. 46.)

No. 3.

The Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos to Go-
vernor Seymour.

9 July 1868.

• Page 9.

† Page 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*
to Governor *Seymour*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 9 July 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches, No. 31*, of the 29th of April, and No. 51†, of the 28th of May, the first reporting that, having brought the question of the selection of a capital for the united Colony under the consideration of the Legislative Council, you had received a resolution from them, expressing the opinion that Victoria is the place most suitable for the capital; and the second, forwarding a copy of the Proclamation by which you declared Victoria to be the capital of the united Colony on the 25th of May.

In reply, I have to inform you that I have been glad to be apprised of the settlement of a question which, while it remained open, must have furnished a continual source of irritation and uncertainty, and I feel little doubt that you have judged rightly in placing the seat of Government in that part of the Colony where the greatest stationary population has collected, and where maritime communication is easiest.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos*,

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

COPY of EXTRACTS of CORRESPONDENCE between
Governor *Kennedy* of *Vancouver Island*,
Governor *Seymour* of *British Columbia*, and
the Colonial Office, on the subject of a Site
for the CAPITAL of *British Columbia*.

(Mr. *Graves*.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
28 July 1868.

483.

Under 2 oz.

CEYLON.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 28 November 1867 ;—for,

“COPIES or EXTRACTS of a DESPATCH from the Governor of *Ceylon*
(Sir *H. Robinson*), dated the 23rd day of April 1866 (No 78), to the
Colonial Office :”

“Of a DESPATCH from the Colonial Secretary to the Governor of *Ceylon*,
dated the 12th day of March 1866 (No. 92) :”

“And, of any other CORRESPONDENCE or PAPERS relating to the PETITION
to HER MAJESTY from Inhabitants of *Ceylon*.”

Colonial Office, }
2 December 1867. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

(*Mr. Watkin.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed.
6 December 1867.

SCHEDULE.

No. in Series.	From whom.	Number and Date.	Subject.	Page.
1	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir Hercules Robinson.	12 March 1866—(No. 92)	Transmits copy of a Petition to The Queen, praying for a modification in the constitution of the Council, which had been placed in Mr. Cardwell's hands by certain gentlemen connected with Ceylon: Requests a report upon the Petition.	3
2	Governor Sir Hercules Robinson to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	23 April 1866—(No. 78)	Forwards original Petition to The Queen, and reports upon the subject. States that, for the reasons assigned, a compliance with the prayer of the Petitioners would not facilitate the Government of the Colony on sound and equitable principles.	3
3	Governor Sir Hercules Robinson to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	15 May 1866—(No. 92) -	Returns Petition forwarded in Mr. Cardwell's Despatch, No. 92, of 12 March 1866, and refers the Secretary of State to the Governor's Despatch, No. 78, of the 23rd April 1866, in which he explained fully his views on the subject.	11
4	Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon to Governor Sir Hercules Robinson.	10 July 1866—(No. 3) -	Acknowledges Governor's Despatch, No. 78, and requests him to inform the gentlemen by whom the Petition has been signed, that Lord Carnarvon has felt himself unable to advise Her Majesty to accede to the prayer of the Petition.	12
5	Charles Bischoff, Esq., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	9 April 1866 - -	Requests that when the Petition shall have been received through the Governor that the Petition left with the Secretary of State be attached to it.	12
6	W. E. Forster, Esq., M.P., to Charles Bischoff, Esq.	18 April 1866 - -	Acceding to the request of Mr. Bischoff	12
7	Governor Sir Hercules Robinson to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.	13 Aug. 1867—(No. 188)	Transmits Letter from the Secretary of the Ceylon League, forwarding a Statement showing the circumstances which led to the formation of the League, and the object which it seeks to obtain.	12
8	His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to Governor Sir Hercules Robinson.	3 Oct. 1867—(No. 169) -	Acknowledges receipt of the above Despatch.	21

COPIES or EXTRACTS of a DESPATCH from the Governor of *Ceylon* (Sir *H. Robinson*), dated the 23rd day of April 1866 (No. 78), to the Colonial Office; of a DESPATCH from the Colonial Secretary to the Governor of *Ceylon*, dated the 12th day of March 1866 (No. 92); and, of any other CORRESPONDENCE or PAPERS relating to the PETITION to HER MAJESTY from Inhabitants of *Ceylon*.

— No. 1. —

(No. 92.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., to Governor Sir *Hercules G. R. Robinson*.

No. 1.

Right Hon.
E. Cardwell, M.P.,
to Governor Sir
H. G. R. Robinson.
12 March 1866.

Sir,

Downing-street, 12 March 1866.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a Petition* which was placed in my hands at an interview which I gave to certain gentlemen connected with Ceylon, who had requested to be allowed to deliver it personally.

The object of this Petition, which was stated to have been signed by 400 Europeans, representing all the leading men in the Colony, and by about 1,300 natives, is to obtain some modification in the constitution of the Council.

I shall be glad to receive your report upon the Petition.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Edward Cardwell*.

— No. 2. —

(No. 78.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Hercules G. R. Robinson* to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

No. 2.

Governor Sir
H. G. R. Robinson
to the Right Hon.
E. Cardwell, M.P.
23 April 1866.

Sir,

Nuwera Ellia, Ceylon, 23 April 1866.

(Received, 1st June 1866.)

(Answered, No. 3, 10th July 1866, page 11.)

I HAVE the honour to forward a Petition addressed to the Queen by certain of the inhabitants of this Colony, together with the copy of a letter in which it was transmitted to the Colonial Secretary by Mr. Wall, one of the late unofficial members of Council, who resigned in the year 1864, in consequence of the differences arising out of the Military Contribution question.

2. The object desired by the Petitioners, to use their own words, is such modification in the constitution or manner of proceeding of the Legislative Council as will secure to the unofficial members, as representatives of the public, that control over the disposal of the local revenues to which, by the principles of the British Constitution, they are entitled.

3. Much misapprehension and confusion must, I think, exist in the minds of the Petitioners, both as regards constitutional principles and the meaning of the terms employed by them in their memorial; for the principles of the British Constitution referred to have no applicability whatever to a colony like Ceylon, obtained

* The Petition is printed as Enclosure 1, to Sir H. Robinson's Despatch, No. 78, of 23rd April 1866, at page 8.

obtained by conquest and cession, in which the supreme legislative authority is vested in the Crown; and the unofficial members of Council in such a colony are not the representatives of the public, in the ordinary sense of the term, being neither selected by nor responsible to the public. Indeed it is difficult to conceive the meaning which the Petitioners can themselves have attached to the word "public" so frequently used by them in their memorial, for in employing it they can scarcely, I imagine, have intended to refer, either to the bulk of the population, or the majority of the tax-paying community.

4. The petition appears to have been signed by over 2,500 persons; upwards of 2,000 native and 548 English signatures having, as stated by Mr. Wall, been attached to it. But the native signatures are not, I conceive, entitled to any weight, the subject being one upon which the native population is entirely ignorant and indifferent; so much so that I have little doubt the same or an equal number of signatures might as readily have been obtained to a petition having a directly opposite object in view. As regards what are termed the "English signatures," they appear on scrutiny to be made up as follows:—

European	-	-	-	-	-	-	186
Burghers	-	-	-	-	-	-	179
Natives	-	-	-	-	-	-	183
TOTAL							548

Amongst the 186 European signatures I can find but 11 merchants and 53 proprietors of coffee estates, and I believe that the reconstitution of the Legislative Council asked for is not desired by the great majority of residents of property and intelligence, and that it would not tend to the better government of the Colony.

5. If the Colony were fitted for self-government, I should be the first to advocate such a concession, under the checks and safeguards which the representative system affords, but if it can be proved that the conditions essential to the success of free institutions do not exist here, and that the Colony must continue under the legislative power of the Crown, no good whatever that I can see would be gained by the Crown, while retaining the responsibility, surrendering to a few interested and irresponsible persons, nominated by itself, the power of thwarting the policy and obstructing the measures of the Government whenever they felt disposed to do so. This in effect is what the Petitioners ask for. They appear to overlook the fact that the great principle of the British Constitution, to which they refer in support of their claims, has been to balance self-interest and power, and to attach to power a due accountability; and they fail to see that if their application were acceded to, absolute power in matters of finance would be entrusted here to persons who are self-interested, and at the same time wholly irresponsible to both the Government and the public.

6. As showing that the Colony is altogether unfitted for representative government, I need only quote the following statistics as to the population, extracted from a useful little compilation, lately published by Mr. Ferguson, the editor of a local newspaper, and which I believe is sufficiently accurate for all practical purposes. It is there shown that the population of Ceylon consists of about 2½ millions, composed as follows:—

Natives	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,336,000
Burghers, European descendants, and persons of mixed blood	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Europeans	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,000
Total							2,344,000

Summary of information regarding Ceylon, its natural features, climate, religion, agriculture, commerce, &c.*

3.

The

* This being a printed pamphlet is not reprinted.

The natives are made up of different races in the following proportions :—

Singhalese (Kandian and Maritime)	-	1,450,000
Tamils	- - - - -	750,000
Moormen	- - - - -	130,000
Malays, Javanese, Kaffirs, or Negroes, Affghans, Arabs, Persians, and Parsees		4,000
Veddahs and Rhodiahs (Aborigines)	-	2,000
Total Native Races -		<u>2,336,000</u>

The constituents of the European population, wives and families included, are as follows :—

Military	- - - - -	1,500
Civil Servants	- - - - -	250
Planters	- - - - -	1,000
Professional men, Merchants and their Em- ployés, Tradesmen, Artizans, &c.	- -	250
Total Europeans -		<u>3,000</u>

So that whilst the native and burgher population amounts to 2,341,000, the European unofficial community, including men, women, and children, numbers only 1,250 souls, or in the proportion of about one in 1,872, as compared with the rest of the population. Free institutions under such conditions would be in the highest degree inexpedient; for the great body of the native population is notoriously so backward in civilization as to be incapable of exercising with advantage the privileges of self-government; and if power were placed in the hands of the small but dominant European minority, such a measure would assuredly not conduce to the administration of the Government upon principles of justice, and of an enlightened regard for the welfare of all classes in the community.

7. For these reasons, doubtless, the Colony has since its acquisition remained under the legislative power of the Crown, which exercises that power by Orders in Council, and concurrently therewith, through laws framed by a local legislature, consisting of the Governor and a Council nominated by the Crown. Under Royal Instructions dated 4th March 1865, the Council is composed at present, in addition to the Governor, of nine official and six unofficial members. The unofficial seats are, under old instructions from the Secretary of State, distributed amongst the different races of the community as follows :

Europeans	- - - - -	3 seats.
Burghers	- - - - -	1 seat.
Singhalese	- - - - -	1 „
Tamils	- - - - -	1 „
TOTAL -		<u>6</u>

The object of the petitioners is either that the number of the unofficial members should be increased, or that of the official members reduced, so that to the former may be secured “full control over the local resources freed from the dictation of the Governor and the Secretary of State.”

8. The petitioners are evidently labouring under the misapprehension that if the unofficial members were in a majority, they would be able to appropriate the local revenues in any manner they thought best. But this could not under any circumstances be the case, as it would always rest with the Executive Government to ask, in the name of the Crown, for the supplies necessary for carrying on the Queen's service in the island, and although the Council might refuse the supplies asked for, or grant smaller sums, it would not be competent

4.
See Report of
“League” Com-
mittee enclosed.

for it to entertain any application for a grant of public money that was not proposed by the Governor on behalf of the Crown.

9. To judge, however, of the manner in which the unofficial members might be disposed occasionally to exercise the power, if they possessed it, of rejecting the supplies asked for, it is only necessary to refer to the statements contained in the accompanying petition. There the petitioners complain both of the policy of economy, enjoined some years since upon the Local Government by the Secretary of State until the Colony should be in a position to defray its own military expenditure, and also of the charges eventually imposed for this purpose, which in their opinion might with greater advantage have been expended in public improvements; and they adduce these proceedings on the part of Her Majesty's Government, in opposition to the wishes of the unofficial members, as proof of the necessity for conferring on the latter the power of defeating for the future any such measures or votes which may, in their opinion, be opposed to the interests of the local public. If, therefore, the unofficial members had been invested with the power which they now claim, they would have disallowed the military charges, passed in pursuance of the instructions contained in your Despatch, No. 176, of the 26th September 1864. Her Majesty's Government would then have had no alternative but to overrule the decision of the local Legislature by an Order in Council, or to submit to an unfair burthen being continued on the imperial resources. In short, whilst the responsibility of maintaining internal order rested on Her Majesty's Government, it belonged, according to the views of the petitioners, to the unofficial members of Council to determine whether the troops required for this purpose should be maintained at the expense of the mother country or the Colony. It appears to me that in resting their claim for relief, as the petitioners do, solely upon the transactions connected with the military contribution question, they have placed themselves in a dilemma from which it is impossible for them to escape. Either the demand made by the Secretary of State upon the Colony to meet the cost of its own military establishments was just or it was unjust. If Her Majesty's Government were prepared to admit the injustice of the demand, the simple relinquishment of it would have been all that was necessary to secure a remedy, without conferring upon the unofficial members the power to defeat the claim. If, on the other hand, the demand was just, as I think must be admitted by every impartial person, the desire of the petitioners to repudiate it only proves their own unfitness for the power they seek.

10. But perhaps it might be urged that the military expenditure question having been disposed of, the balance of the local resources is available for purely local purposes, and that therefore the unofficial members, now that no imperial question is at issue, might fairly be allowed to control the disposal of the local revenue. Such a view, however, could only be based on the erroneous supposition that the unofficial members are the representatives of the taxpayers, and that in such capacity they have claims and qualifications as legislators superior to those of the official members. But the unofficial members are not representatives of the public. They are nominated by the Crown; hold office for life, or as long as they remain in the island, and are wholly irresponsible either to the Crown, or to the public, or even to the particular class from which they may have been selected. They represent, in short, nothing but their own individual opinions. If, again, their qualifications as legislators are contrasted with those of officials, the comparison will not, I think, be found to be favourable to the former. An official member of Council is ordinarily an educated English gentleman who has served an apprenticeship for years in different parts of the island. He has generally had ample opportunities of becoming acquainted with the Colony, its resources, and requirements, and with the customs and prejudices of the different races of the native population. He is debarred from embarking in agricultural or commercial pursuits, and has, therefore, in his capacity as a legislator, no class or personal interests of that nature to promote. His own credit and advancement are bound up with the general prosperity of the island, which must be his home so long as he is able to work; and he is directly responsible for his opinions, votes, and conduct to Her Majesty's Government. Contrast with these securities for experience and impartiality

impartiality those offered by a European unofficial member of Council, whose class, although a mere fraction of the population, monopolises already one-half of the unofficial seats. He is generally a merchant or a planter, with little or no knowledge of the island beyond the capital or the coffee districts. He is a mere temporary resident whose sole aim and object is to acquire a competency in the shortest possible time so as to escape from the island for ever. He is a member of a small but dominant class, whose interests often conflict with those of the majority of the inhabitants who are life settlers. He has, in the appropriation of the general revenue of the Colony, to which he and his class contribute but an infinitesimal proportion, objects to advance in which either he himself personally or his class are directly interested. And above all, as I have already explained, he is wholly irresponsible as well to the Crown as to the public. As proof of their irresponsibility even to their own class, I may mention that I have known unofficial members in Crown Colonies persistently oppose themselves with impunity to the unanimous views and wishes of the very class to which they belonged, regardless alike of remonstrances and invitations to retire. And I may add that during the period in which I have been connected with Crown Colonies, I cannot recall a single instance in which the unofficial members have been outvoted, except those in which the official members have had to give effect to the settled policy of the Home Government, or else those in which the local Government and officials have felt constrained, from a sense of duty, to oppose to narrow views of class interests comprehensive considerations of the general good.

11. For these reasons I consider that a compliance with the prayer of the petition would not facilitate the good government of the Colony. The conditions indispensable to the success of representative institutions, as I have shown, do not exist here. The Crown is, and must for years to come, continue solely responsible here for the adoption of such a policy, and such measures as will best promote the prosperity of the island, the welfare and improvement of the native population, and the maintenance of equal justice between the various castes and classes of the community; and I am firmly convinced that these objects would not be advanced by giving to the unofficial element in the Legislative Council a preponderating influence. At the same time, I readily admit that a proportion of unofficial members in the Council is calculated to effect many salutary results. Their presence there obliges the Government to weigh measures well before introducing them, and secures publicity and discussion for them afterwards. Their presence also affords to both the Governor and the Secretary of State, with whom the ultimate decision upon every question in a Crown Colony must always rest, an opportunity of learning what can be urged upon both sides, and of ascertaining upon each measure the views of intelligent members of the community, Native as well as European, who are unconnected with the local Government. In the discharge of these their legitimate functions, the unofficial members can, as I know from experience, exercise a very beneficial influence upon the transaction of legislative business without being made the depository of that absolute power in matters of finance which they claim, but for which they are entirely unfitted.

12. The correctness of these principles would seem to have been fully recognised by Her Majesty's Government, and by Parliament in dealing within the last few years with the establishment of Legislative Councils in the neighbouring continent of India. That country affords the only comparison of which I know in which the political conditions are at all similar to those existing here, as in no other British Dependency that I am acquainted with is the disproportion between the European and Native population so great, or the Native population divided into such a variety of races, as in Ceylon. The Legislative Council for the whole of the Indian Empire consists, in addition to the Governor General, of 14 members, of whom nine are official and five are unofficial members. The unofficial seats are filled at present by three Native and two European gentlemen; and the unofficial members are appointed besides under Act of Parliament for only two years. The Legislative Council for the Presidency of Bombay consists, I believe, in addition to the Governor, of 11 members, of whom seven are official, and four unofficial members. The unofficial seats appear to be filled at present by one European and three Native gentlemen. The Legislative Council of Madras consists, in addition to the

24 & 25 Vict. c. 67,
1 August 1861.

the Governor, of 10 members, of whom seven are official, and three unofficial members. The unofficial seats are filled at present, I observe, by one European and two Native gentlemen. Thus it will be seen that in all these cases the arrangements, both as regards tenure and the proportion of unofficial to official members, are less liberal than those existing here, and that in none of them is so large a share of the unofficial seats appropriated to Europeans as in Ceylon.

13. During the last 12 months I have travelled over nearly the whole island, and endeavoured to make myself acquainted, as far as possible, with the views of the residents who are most competent of judging correctly on this subject. The conclusion to which I have been led is that the extension of the unofficial element in the Legislative Council is deprecated by the majority of prudent thoughtful persons having a stake in the country. Over and over again, I have heard the same remark, "We do not want any more unofficial members, but what we do want is greater freedom allowed from home to the local Government." And this it will be observed is the essence also of the grievance urged by the petitioners, although they fail to perceive that it would not in the remotest degree be met by the remedy which they propose. Their complaint is, that acting under orders from the home Government, the local Government has injuriously restricted the local expenditure, with the view of giving effect to measures of imperial policy. They complain not that the local Government has appropriated unwisely the local resources which it has been permitted to expend, but that it has not been allowed to expend more; and it must be obvious that this complaint, which is one against the Secretary of State alone, requires only for its removal the simple assent of Her Majesty's Government, and that it would not be met by the changes which have been suggested by the petitioners in the constitution of the local legislature; for, as I have already pointed out, the initiation of money votes must always remain with the local Executive Government, and the home Government could always prescribe any restrictions in this respect which it saw fit. For my own part, however, I have not concealed from you my opinion, that the restrictions imposed by the present regulations, as regards the expenditure of surplus balances, are no longer necessary or fair. The practical effect of them is, that these balances have now accumulated to nearly a quarter of a million sterling, whilst a liberal outlay on reproductive works is of vital importance to the growing prosperity of the colony. So long as the colony was under obligations which it was unable to discharge, it was doubtless the duty of Her Majesty's Government to take measures for securing the utmost economy in the administration of the finances; but now that the colony has assumed the entire cost of its military establishments, and made adequate provision for the extinction of the railway debt, I think some greater latitude might be allowed as regards the appropriation of all ascertained net available balances. Having, however, already fully explained to you my views on this subject in previous Despatches, I need not repeat them here, but will merely add that if Her Majesty's Government should feel disposed to sanction any relaxation in this respect, I believe that the only approach to a real grievance of which the colonists have now to complain, will then be removed; and that in all other respects the existing constitutional system will be found to provide as effective securities for good government as are attainable in a community so exceptionally circumstanced.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hercules G. R. Robinson.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The humble Petition of Your Majesty's loyal and devoted Subjects in Ceylon,

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT the Legislative Council of Ceylon, as it is now constituted, is not suited to the present state and requirements of the island; inasmuch as it does not afford the public that control over the disposal of the local revenues to which, by the principles of the British constitution, they are entitled.

That

No. 207, of
4 December 1865.
No. 208, of
5 December 1865.

Encl. 1, in No 2.

That whilst Your Majesty's Secretaries of State for the Colonies have from time to time admitted the right to such control in principle, and even described it as a cardinal point of any sound policy, yet they have continually set it at naught in practice, and have burdened the revenues of the Island with heavy charges, without the consent and contrary to the interests of the public.

That even if the full control of the revenue were conceded to the Council as it is now constituted, the great preponderance of official members would still enable the local Government to force through it any measures or votes of money which the Secretary of State, or the Governor acting under his instructions, might determine to carry.

That, availing themselves of the undue influence and power afforded by such majority, the local Government have, under the direction of Your Majesty's Secretaries of State, for some years past injuriously restricted the public expenditure, thereby creating large surpluses of revenue, on the strength of which they have imposed heavy charges, notwithstanding the most earnest remonstrances of the public, and the strongest protests of the unofficial members. These charges have gone through the formality of being passed by the Council, and have thus acquired the semblance, without possessing the substance, of constitutional votes. Universal dissatisfaction has thus been excited throughout the Island, and the legislative function has been brought into contempt.

That in consequence of the expenditure being so restricted, the most important departments of the Government and the principal public works, on which the welfare and progress of the country depend, have been seriously impaired, though the revenues were ample for their efficient maintenance.

That the surplus revenues so created would not have existed, if justice had been done to the public.

That Your Majesty's Petitioners, while retaining the warmest attachment and most devoted loyalty to Your Majesty's throne and person, feel deeply aggrieved by the treatment to which they have of late years been subjected, and they humbly pray Your Majesty to give them speedy relief.

That Your Majesty's Petitioners do not presume to ask for any particular form of Legislative Council, either as to the number of its members or the manner of their appointment; but would submit to Your Majesty's pleasure the mode and measure of the concessions Your Majesty may deem to be due to the country, in view of its present advanced condition, as contrasted with that of the period when the present Constitution was granted. Your Majesty's Petitioners would gratefully accept such modifications of the existing Council and practice as would secure to the unofficial members as representatives of the public a due influence in the disposal of the revenue.

That should Your Majesty not be prepared to concede larger measures of relief, Your Majesty's petitioners believe that the substance of their prayer might be granted, even though the present Constitution of the Council were retained, provided that whenever measures of supply were before the Council the votes of the official and unofficial members were equalized by the withdrawal of some of the official votes, and provided that an unofficial member were to preside on such occasions. Your Majesty's Petitioners do not propose this as the best or most suitable arrangement, but in order to show that no violent change would be necessary to accomplish the object of their prayer.

Your Majesty's Petitioners therefore humbly pray that Your Majesty may be pleased to order such modification in the Constitution or manner of proceeding of the present Council as to Your Majesty may seem suited to the present requirements of the Island.

And Your Majesty's Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Signed by about { Europeans, 400
Natives, 1,300

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

Sir,

Nuwara Eliya, 14 March 1866.

Encl. 2, in No. 2.

HEREWITH I have the honour to hand you a petition to Her Gracious Majesty, and to request you will be good enough to forward it to its destination through the proper channel.

I have the honour to inform you that besides the signatures attached to the petition herewith, 1,728 were subscribed to copies of the petition, which were forwarded by mistake direct to the agent of the Ceylon League in London. I enclose a list of the English signatures in full, for your information. The signatures in the native characters were, besides, Eight hundred and Sixty-two (862) in Singhalese, and Four hundred and Fourteen (414) in Tamul. The total number of signatures, inclusive of those mentioned, is upwards of 2,500.

To the Honourable
The Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) George Wall.

Enclosure 4, in No. 2.

Encl. 4, in No. 2.

REPORT of the "League" Committee, extracted from the "Ceylon Examiner" of the 16th August 1865.

CEYLON LEAGUE.

Chamber of Commerce, 12th August 1865.

Present:

Mr. GEO. WALL, in the Chair.

Mr. Dawson.
Mr. White.
Mr. Binny Scott.

Mr. Lorenz.
Mr. Buchanan.

The Secretary read the minutes of the proceedings of the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

The Chairman reported the continued satisfactory progress of the League, both in regard to the increase in the number of its members and the amount of its subscriptions.

The Chairman of the Sub-Committee appointed on the 22nd July, "To consider and recommend such alterations in the constitution of the Legislative Council as may be deemed most suitable to the wants of the Island," brought up their report, which was considered and adopted.

REPORT referred to.

"Your Committee having carefully considered the matter submitted to them, are of opinion that the evil of which the Colony complains, and the danger to which it is subject under the existing constitution and working of the Legislative Council being almost entirely confined to financial measures, might be obviated without necessarily altering the constitution or interfering with the action of the Council in regard to matters of general policy.

"The object of the League in endeavouring to secure to the Colony the full control of its financial affairs might be secured even with the existing form of Council, if its action in relation to such affairs were so modified as to give the representatives of the public a majority therein. If, for example, in all financial measures the number of official and unofficial members were equalised by the withdrawal of some of the official members or their votes, and if an unofficial president were appointed on such occasions, the League would attain what they contend for without at all interfering with the present formation of the Council or with its action in other matters.

"Your Committee are not prepared to say that this arrangement would be the best that could be devised, or the one most suitable to the wants of the Colony; but they suggest it, in order to show that no violent change, nor even any enlargement of the Council, however desirable on other grounds, is necessary to the end which the League contends for.

"Your Committee deem it inexpedient with this view that the League should hold out for any particular number of members or for any special mode of appointment, but insist solely upon the principle of giving to the representatives of the taxpayers the right to which they are constitutionally entitled, of full control of the disposal of the local revenues, freed from the dictation of the Governor or the Secretary of State."

The Chairman of the Sub-Committee appointed on the 7th August, "to draw up a petition to the Queen for circulation among the District Committees," presented a draft petition for the consideration of the Committee.

The petition was discussed at some length, and the discussion adjourned to the next meeting.

The meeting then adjourned to Monday the 14th instant at Four o'clock.

(signed) H. C. Buchanan,
Acting Honorary Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, 14th August 1865.

PRESENT :

Mr. GEO. WALL, in the Chair.

Mr. White.
Mr. Binny Scott.

Mr. Dawson.
Mr. Buchanan.

The Secretary read the minutes of the proceedings at the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

The petition, the discussion of which was adjourned at the last meeting, was again brought up, and after amendment was adopted.

Resolved,—"That the petition as adopted be translated into Singhalese and Tamil, and printed in Singhalese, Tamil, and English; that copies in these languages be sent to the district committees with a request to have them circulated and signed as extensively as possible, to be returned by the 20th September."

— No. 3. —

(No. 92.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Hercules G. R. Robinson* to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, 15 May 1866.
(Received, 10 July 1866.)

Sir,

As requested in your Despatch, No. 92,* of the 12th March last, I do myself the honour of returning the petition of certain inhabitants of this Colony, praying for some modification in the constitution of the Legislative Council.

In my Despatch, No. 78,† of the 23rd April last, I explained fully my views on this subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hercules G. R. Robinson*.

No. 3.

Governor Sir
H. G. R. Robinson
to the Right Hon.
E. Cardwell, M.P.
15 May 1866.

* Page 3.

† Page 3.

— No. 4. —

(No. 3.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Earl of *Carnarvon*, to Governor Sir *Hercules G. R. Robinson*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 10 July 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 23rd April last, No. 78,* forwarding a petition addressed to the Queen by certain inhabitants of Ceylon, praying for a modification of the existing Constitution of the Island.

A petition in the same terms was placed in my predecessor's hands, and was forwarded to you in his Despatch of the 12th of March, No. 92.†

I have to request that you will inform the gentlemen by whom the petition has been signed that it has been laid before the Queen, by whom it was graciously received.

You will at the same time inform them I have felt myself unable to advise Her Majesty to accede to the prayer of their petition.

As it is impossible to establish in Ceylon any Legislature which shall really represent the population of the country, Her Majesty's Government do not feel at liberty to abandon that control over the revenues and legislation of the Colony, which is given them by the present Constitution of the Legislative Council.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Carnarvon*.

No. 4.

Right Hon. the
Earl of Carnarvon
to Governor
Sir H. Robinson.
10 July 1866.

* Page 3.

† Page 3.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.

C. Bischoff, Esq.,
to the Right Hon.
E. Cardwell, M.P.

9 April 1866.

COPY of a LETTER from *Charles Bischoff*, Esq., to the Right Honourable
Edward Cardwell, M.P.

19, Coleman-street, London, E.C.,

9 April 1866.

Sir,

At the interview which Sir Arthur Buller, Sir James Elphinstone, Mr. Watkin, myself, and others, had the honour of having with you on the 24th February last, I placed in your hands a petition from the merchants and other residents in the Island of Ceylon, to be presented to the Queen, and at that time called your attention to what I feared was an error; viz., that this petition ought to have come through the Governor of the Colony; but you kindly said it might remain with you, though you would be under the necessity of referring it to Sir Hercules Robinson, and getting his opinion thereon before taking any steps therewith.

By recent advices from Ceylon, it appears that the petitioners had discovered their error, and found that the petition ought to have been sent through the Governor, and steps were being taken to have the petition, with further signatures attached thereto (together with a copy of those appended to the original petition lodged with you), placed in his Excellency's hands, explaining to him that the other portions of the petition and signatures had been sent, by mistake, to England.

May I therefore take the liberty of requesting that, when you receive the petition from his Excellency, you will attach to it the petition which I left with you on the 24th of February last, and make one document thereof.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Charles Bischoff*.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.

W. E. Forster,
Esq., M.P., to
C. Bischoff, Esq.

18 April 1866.

COPY of a LETTER from *W. E. Forster*, Esq., M.P., to *Charles Bischoff*, Esq.

Sir,

Downing-street, 18 April 1866.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to inform you, that the petition to which you refer in your letter of the 9th instant, was sent to the Governor of Ceylon for his report on the 12th of March.

When that petition is returned by the Governor, with the further petition to which you also refer, they shall be attached together, and be considered as one document.

I am, &c.

(signed) *W. E. Forster*.

— No. 7. —

(No. 188.)

No. 7.

Sir Hercules G. R.
Robinson to his
Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

13 August 1867.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *Hercules G. R. Robinson* to His
Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

The Pavilion, Kandy, Ceylon, 13 August 1867.

(Received, 18th September 1867.)

(Answered, No. 169, 3rd October 1867, p. 21.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward a letter addressed to your Grace by the Secretary of the Ceylon League, forwarding a Statement showing the circumstances which led to the formation of the League, and the object which it seeks to obtain.

The Petition to Her Majesty the Queen referred to in that letter was forwarded

warded with my Dspatch, No. 78,* of the 23rd April 1866, addressed to Mr. Cardwell, in which I explained fully my views on this subject, and in Lord Carnarvon's Despatch, No. 3,† of the 10th July 1866, I was requested to inform the Petitioners that his Lordship was unable to advise Her Majesty to accede to the prayer of their Petition.

* Page 3.

† Page 11.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hercules G. R. Robinson.*

Enclosure in No. 7.

Enclosure in No. 7.

My Lord Duke,

Ceylon League, Colombo, 19 July 1867.

I AM directed by the Central Committee of the Ceylon League to forward for your information a "Statement" showing the circumstances which led to the formation of the League, and the object which it seeks to attain.

The subject has already been brought to the notice of your predecessors in office by a Petition to Her Majesty the Queen very numerously signed by all classes and races of the Colony, praying for such modification in the constitution or manner of proceeding of the Legislative Council as would adapt it to the advanced intelligence and political requirements of the Colony. A deputation of gentlemen in the interests of Ceylon waited upon Mr. Cardwell and explained to him the circumstances which had called forth the Petition, and they were led to expect that concessions which would have satisfied them would be made. Mr. Cardwell having retired from office very soon afterwards, the Petition was answered by his successor, Lord Carnarvon, within a few days of his accession to office, to the effect that he was unable to advise Her Majesty to accede to the prayer of the Petition, as it was impossible to establish in Ceylon any legislature which should really represent the population of the country.

But I am directed by the Central Committee to beg the attention of your Grace to the fact that the League has never urged the introduction into Ceylon of representative institutions, that its prayer has been for a constitution such as would secure to the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, who are themselves appointed by the Governor, a due influence in the disposal of the revenue.

And the Committee venture to express a hope that in view of the justice and moderation of the prayer of their Petition, your Grace will take it into your favourable consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Keppel Jones,*

To His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, Secretary, Ceylon League.
Her Majesty's
Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

THE CEYLON LEAGUE, ITS ORIGIN AND OBJECT.

ON the 15th November 1864, the unofficial Members of the Legislative Council resigned their seats, in a letter to the then acting Governor, Major General O'Brien, in which they set forth their reasons for the step, at considerable length. (See Appendix No. I.)‡

Resignation of Unofficial Members.

A few months afterwards they formed themselves into a political association, the "Ceylon League," the object and principles of which were embodied in a manifesto signed by them. (See Appendix No. II.)

Formation of Ceylon League.

The promoters of the League, in their appeal to the public of Ceylon, stated that it was their intention to make their case known as widely as possible. With this view the present statement is submitted for the perusal of all those who desire to see British Colonies governed with the same equity as distinguishes the rule of the Imperial Government in Home affairs.

Previous to the year 1833, the Legislature of the Island of Ceylon consisted of the Governor and his Executive Council, composed entirely of the higher members of the Civil Service. In that year, under the government of Sir Robert Wilmot Horton, a new political constitution was given to the island, by which the power of enacting laws and of appropriating the public revenues was conferred on a Legislative Council, composed of the members of the Executive Council, six in number, of four additional official members, not having seats in the Executive Council, and of six unofficial members, selected from the general community by the Governor, of whom three were understood to represent the European classes, and three the native sections of society; in all 16 members, of whom 10

Ceylon in 1833.

were

‡ None of the Appendices are reprinted.

were officials; the council having for its President the Governor, who, as such, was armed also with a casting vote in all discussions, as well as with the power of veto in any case in which he might choose to exercise it. On taking their seats, every member was sworn not only to allegiance to the Throne, but to discharge his duties as councillor according to his conscience. The Legislative Council, thus constituted, had power to discuss only such measures as might be submitted to it by the Governor and Executive Council; the privileges of unofficial members being restricted to submitting to Government the "project of a measure." As there was no certainty that such project would ever be brought before the Council, the privilege was never exercised.

Powers of the Legislative Council.

On the appointment of Sir Charles M'Carthy to the Government of Ceylon, the Duke of Newcastle, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, conferred on the members of Council the privilege of proposing, for discussion and legislation, any subject which did not tend to entail a charge on the revenue (Appendix No. III.), a restriction which has since been applied in a most invidious and arbitrary manner. Unofficial members have been told that to propose the smallest additional item to a Money Bill, actually before the Council for discussion and amendment, was an invasion of the prerogative of the Executive Government.* Still further to guard the prerogative of the Executive, the custom was introduced of carrying up all Bills for the formal sanction of the Governor, although his Excellency, as President, had put to the Council the passing of such Bills, and had voted thereon. No other change has been introduced into the constitution and functions of the Legislative Council since its first establishment.

Selection of Unofficial Members.

During the Government of Lord Torrington in 1847, the practice was first established of referring the nomination of the European members to the Chamber of Commerce in Colombo and the Planters' Association in Kandy. This deference to public opinion was observed for 18 years, and it was not until the resignation of the late members that our present Governor caused the political action of his Government to retrograde for nearly 20 years, by taking the appointment of the new unofficial nominees into his own hands.

Ceylon in 1833 and in 1865.

In dealing with the principles advocated by the "League," in reference to the control of the Legislative Council over the island revenues, without interference from Imperial authorities, it may be well to contrast the condition of the island when the Legislative Council was called into existence, with its present state. In 1833, the island revenues amounted to 437,000 £; the expenditure to 339,000 £. The revenue now exceeds 900,000 £, and the expenditure amounts to about the same sum. The exports of coffee, were then 32,000 cwts.†; they are now 800,000 cwts. The yearly imports from Great Britain were then of the value of 23,000 £; they now amount to 1,000,000 £‡. In 1833, the first experimental coffee estate had just been commenced; there are now upwards of 800 coffee plantations, giving occupation to more than a thousand European managers and superintendents. There were in the former year only five or six European firms in the island; there are now 30 in Colombo alone, while the number of native firms and traders has increased in much larger proportion and so rapidly as to render it difficult to obtain any correct account of them. In 1833 there were but one or two score of non-official and non-military Europeans in the island, and but three or four schools badly attended; in 1865 there are not fewer than 3,000 European residents, exclusive of civilians and military, and about 900 schools with 20,000 scholars.

Great progress of Ceylon.

The progress of Ceylon in agriculture, commerce, and social improvement, during the last 30 years, has been, perhaps, as rapid as that of any other British settlement; politically, however, the island has remained in the position in which the first coffee plantation found it.

West India Islands and Ceylon.

The West India Islands, so far from keeping pace with Ceylon, have in most cases retrograded, whilst this Colony has attained a commercial prosperity which enables it to consume British manufactures to nearly the amount of that taken by all the West India Islands. Nevertheless, those Colonies possess political privileges which are not enjoyed by Ceylon. As regards the expenditure of their revenues, they have been endowed with rights which are withheld from Ceylon. - And it is in the endeavour to obtain similar rights that the League now comes before the public.

Mr. Ackland's Letter, 1847, and Earl Grey's Reply, 1848.

Fifteen years elapsed, previous to 1848, without any change being made in the Legislative Council, though energetic protests were from time to time made against the arbitrary proceedings of the Government, in respect of money-votes, during the administration of Mr. Stewart Mackenzie. In 1847, Mr. Ackland, one of the unofficial members, entered a protest against the government of Lord Torrington, chiefly in reference to public expenditure, in a letter which he addressed to Earl Grey, then Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies. (See Appendix No. IV.) A reply to this appeal reached Ceylon in the following year, in the form of a Despatch from Lord Grey to the Governor, which was directed to be laid before Council. (See Appendix No. V.) This, and the two succeeding Despatches, may be said to contain the political charter for which the League are now striving, and it is the non-fulfilment of the pledges contained in these Despatches (See Appendix No. VI.) which led, first, to discontent in and out of the Council,

* Suggestions by unofficial members, in the Session of 1865, that Government should bear the expense of clothing the police, and that a tax on dogs should be added to the resources of municipalities, were dealt with on the same principle.

† Entirely native grown coffee.

‡ The figure for 1863 was over 1,000,000 £; in 1864 it exceeded 1,650,000 £. Allowing for British goods exported, the Colony now consumes to the value of more than one million.

Council, then to protests and petitions, and finally, to the resignation of the then unofficial members, and to the establishment of "the Ceylon League."

Earl Grey was fully alive to the importance of the position taken by Ceylon during the 15 years that had elapsed since the establishment of the Legislative Council (though this is not to be compared with the progress made during the following 15 years), for he declared in most emphatic language that the time had then arrived when the Council should be entrusted with full control over the expenditure of the Colony. The Governor was, at the same time, instructed to undertake a complete revision of the whole public expenditure, civil and military, with a view to lighten such burthens as pressed most heavily on the resources of the island.

Functions of Legislative Council defined.

Such a change, he declared, "should originate in the Colony itself, and be well matured in the sphere in which it is intended to operate." With regard to the civil establishments, his Lordship was most explicit, and they were remodelled accordingly. The military department was to have been similarly dealt with, and a despatch on the subject was promised by Earl Grey, which was unfortunately never written, Lord Grey having retired from office before he could carry out the policy on which he had determined. During this long period the Colony waited, at first, in hopeful patience, at length, in disappointed weariness.

The expected despatch and the promised inquiry never came. The Legislative Council felt the neglect and the injustice of this inaction so keenly, that for years it voted certain of the military items with the utmost reluctance and under formal protests conveyed in the reports of the sub-committees on the yearly Supply Bills.

No Enquiry.—Protest of Legislative Council.

During the administration of Sir Henry Ward (1859), the Island Allowances of military officers were increased at the recommendation of a committee composed of military and civil servants, without reference to the Legislative Council. Large sums of money were also spent, under the special authority and order of the Governor, without any vote, for various public purposes; and it was felt and made a subject of complaint that, by such proceedings, the action of the Legislature was superseded in its principal function. (See Appendix, No. VII.)

Sir H. Ward and Mr. Wall's Letter.

The impatience of the Colony under this state of things, was not manifested solely through the proceedings of council. The public voice was frequently raised at meetings of the Chamber of Commerce and the Planters' Association, and also at special meetings of the general community, at all of which energetic but loyal appeals for reform were made.

Address to the Queen, 1861.

The Legislative Council were not content to rest their protests upon committee reports, which might meet with little or no attention from the Home Authority. In 1861, they adopted an address to the Throne on the subject of this long-felt grievance, in which, with the most devoted loyalty, they expressed the readiness of the Council and the Colony to bear whatever burthen might be found necessary for the maintenance of the needful military establishments, after a full and impartial inquiry on the spot. (See Appendix, No. VIII.)

In this prayer the Council found supporters in a quarter where they had not been sought, and whence they were scarcely expected. A Committee of the House of Commons was appointed to inquire into, and report upon, "Colonial Military Expenditure," and in 1861-2 that Committee sent in its report. It declared that it was highly injudicious to attempt to fortify the Colonial possessions of Great Britain; that their safety in time of war must depend upon the protection to be afforded them by the Imperial Navy; and that it would be therefore needless and unjust to garrison those places to any greater extent than was necessary for their internal defence, or to guard them against piratical attacks. It added that the British Colonies should be called upon to bear a larger proportion than hitherto of their military expenditure, whilst it suggested that in certain cases, such as the Colonies of Australia and New Zealand, the whole amount should be borne by them. The Committee furthermore declared, that where any Colony should be called upon to pay the whole expenses of its military, that Colony ought to be allowed to decide upon the amount of the force required for its internal protection. The principle thus laid down is one of no little importance, since it has been acknowledged by Mr. Secretary Cardwell as perfectly sound, though ignored by him in practice, when dealing with the military expenditure question in Ceylon.

House of Commons and Colonial Military Expenditure.

The publication of this report naturally induced the public of Ceylon to anticipate some concessions as the result of that document. The then Governor, the late Sir Charles MacCarthy, lost no opportunity of assuring the Legislative Council, in the discussion of certain military votes, that the matter was under the serious consideration of the Home Authorities, and that the Duke of Newcastle was zealously fighting the battle of the Colony against the War Office.

Delays—1862-3.

Despite these earnest assurances of inquiry and adjustment, nothing was done. The Legislative Council became still more impatient, when, in the Session of 1863, after the Supply Bill for 1864 had been introduced, and the anticipated revenue all but appropriated, the Governor informed them that he had received instructions from the Duke of Newcastle to set aside a further sum of 30,000 £. for military contribution to the mother country, which, with the existing payment, would make the amount 54,000 £. annually paid into the Queen's military chest; and this, in addition to island allowances, colonial pay, military works, commissariat, pensions, &c., made up a total of 126,000 £., a far larger sum than had ever been contributed by any other Colony of Great Britain in one year. In announcing this new demand on the revenue of the island, the Governor assured the Council, that "they might safely reckon that no addition would be made to the sum now demanded,

Further Military exactions.

until the Colony was free from all its railway liabilities," an assurance which it was the ill fate of the Colony to see belied before the expiration of 12 months. In accordance with the demand thus peremptorily made, a sum of 30,000 £. was taken from the votes for works and buildings, contrary to strong protests both in and out of Council.

The people and their representatives, notwithstanding the positive assurance of their Governor, could not regard this fresh exaction otherwise than as the thin end of a wedge that was ultimately to be driven ruthlessly home; and the sequel proved that they were right.

In view of this state of things, public meetings were held in Colombo, Kandy, Negombo and other places at which resolutions were adopted strongly condemnatory of this new addition to our burthens, in the face of our prayer for inquiry, which was still withheld; and, in the Legislative Council, the unofficial opposition was strongly supported by several of the official members. The latter, however, although pledged to vote according to their conscience, felt themselves bound to vote for the new impost, coming as it did with the direct and overruling authority of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The unofficial members saw the futility of any active opposition to the appropriation of the 30,000 £. thus peremptorily enjoined upon the official members; but, aware of the feelings of the latter on the entire question of the military expenditure, the unofficials resolved to bring the matter to an issue by opposing some portion of the contingent military votes. This was done upon the Council going into committee on the Supply Bill. A vote for 1,018 £. -s. 8 d. for travelling allowances to military officers, was opposed by them, not on its intrinsic merits, but on the ground that such votes having, in previous years, been passed on the distinct understanding that a settlement of the military question should be forthwith arranged, no attention whatever had been given by the Home Government to the remonstrances and prayers of the Council. The amendment, proposing the rejection of this and another similar vote, was supported by every member of the Council save three, the Major General, the Auditor General and the Surveyor General (an officer in the Royal Engineers); and the items were accordingly omitted from the Supply Bill.

During the discussion in Council upon the above military vote, some facts were elicited which are worthy of record. It appears, from the War Office returns and the Indian budget, that, whilst the army in India, including a large cavalry and horse artillery force*, most costly branches of the service, cost, on an average, 71 £. per head, the troops in Ceylon entail a charge equal to 88 £. per head. Again, although Ceylon is charged the usual amount per head for every soldier, European and native, in the island, towards the Army Pension Fund, the Colony is, at the same time, paying out of its own revenues, in addition to that charge, the whole of the pensions to the Rifle Regiment, amounting to 7,000 £. a year. Again, the maintenance of Trincomalee, as a naval station, should rightly fall on the Imperial Government, the annual cost being about 35,000 £. These charges, and the difference of cost per head for the troops above those in India, will show that, instead of the Imperial Government paying, in round numbers, 110,000 £., and the Colony 97,000 £., the latter, in reality, always paid the larger moiety, since the reduction of the European troops to one battalion.

The argument employed by the military authorities, that the Council had broken faith, by the refusal of votes granted in previous years,—is entirely fallacious. In the year 1859, when those allowances were increased by direction of the then Governor, Sir Henry Ward, his Excellency took special care to impress on the military authorities of the day that they were not to regard those items as *permanently fixed*. They were simply *advances for that year*, made on the Governor's own responsibility. "The Legislative Council alone," he added, "can give that scale any permanency, and it can also absolutely reject it."†

In the discussion which arose on these rejected votes and the additional 30,000 £. ordered by the Secretary of State to be set aside for military works, the Colonial Secretary expressed himself as compelled to vote for the latter, though free to oppose the former; the one having been ordered by the Secretary of State, the others not so directed. It is worth while quoting his words, as they will illustrate precisely the abject position in which our Legislative Council is placed, whenever a Secretary of State pleases to issue directions as to the votes of the official majority in money matters. "The Colonial Secretary did not understand the Queen's Advocate to mean that the Council was bound by the instructions of the Secretary of State, but simply that the servants of this Government were bound to act in accordance with his directions in financial matters."‡

It is difficult to understand the distinction here attempted to be drawn. The official members are confessedly bound to act in accordance with Imperial instructions in financial matters, and as they consist of 10, out of the entire 16, it must necessarily follow that the Council itself is bound by the instructions of the Secretary of State. This is the principle against which the League contends; it is the removal of this injurious influence in financial matters which constitutes the essence of the League's action.

The Legislative Session of 1864 witnessed struggles for privileges, and repeated protests

* The troops in Ceylon are solely infantry..

† Letter addressed by Mr. J. Bailey, Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary, to Military Secretary, 27 June 1859.

‡ *Ceylon Times*, 3 December 1863.

General mistrust and discontent.

Public meetings and Address to the Queen.

Rejection of Military Votes by Council.

Cost of Troops for Ceylon and India.

Council did not break faith by throwing out these Military items.

The Secretary of State and Official Members of Council.

The Session of 1864 and privileges of Council.

tests of Council, which in the end terminated in the resignation of the unofficial members. In the discussion upon the reply of the Council to the address of the Acting Governor, the unofficial members, through Mr. Wall, brought forward three separate amendments. The first expressed deep concern and disappointment at the total silence of the address in regard to the question so long uppermost in the minds and proceedings of the members, that of our military expenditure. This amendment was ruled to be "out of order," there having been no allusion to military matters in the address, and it was accordingly not pressed. The second amendment, whilst acquiescing in the prosperous condition of the Colony, attributed that progress to the energy and enterprise of the public, and not to the Government, which had evinced no desire to foster improvements or to encourage industry. On a division, this motion was lost by *one* vote. The third and most important amendment was however carried. It went to a direct impeachment of the Government for its culpable neglect and starvation of the various departments upon which the progress and well-being of the Colony depended, and was couched in the following words:—"That this Council desire to record their dissatisfaction and discontent that revenues have been exacted for several years so far beyond the requirements of the public service, and so much larger than could be devoted to public purposes; and they further complain that, whilst the revenues have been so abundant, the efficiency of nearly every public Department has been seriously impaired by the parsimonious policy of Government." This censure on the local Government, which was carried by the votes of all the unofficial members, in the absence of an unusual proportion of the official members, recorded in the most emphatic and public manner the opinion of the entire community—an opinion which had been yearly gaining strength, and had hitherto found but partial utterance, at uncertain intervals, in the local press, but which was afterwards urged with fresh force in the letter of resignation tendered by the unofficial members.

The dissatisfaction and discontent expressed in this amendment were not a little increased by the conduct of the Executive in stifling discussion upon the inefficiency of the public departments whenever opportunity offered. The Report of the Select Committee on the Public Works Department, a department entrusted with the expenditure of one-fourth of the votes of Council, was declared by the Executive Government to be beyond the pale of discussion, because some of its recommendations had reference to an increase in the efficiency of the department, by means of an increase in the number of officers as well as in their salaries; and it was argued by the higher officials that this was opposed to that section of the Royal instructions, which forbade the introduction by unofficial members of any subject for discussion having a tendency to entail a charge upon the revenue. The motion that Council do go into Committee for the purpose of considering this report was thereupon withdrawn, and this document, which was the first report by a Select Committee of Council on any department of the Government, was forwarded to the Secretary of State unaccompanied by any expression of the Council's opinion.

Stifling of discussion on the Public Works Report.

The Railway Sinking Fund Bill formed the next instance in which public funds were appropriated, under instructions from the Secretary of State, in direct opposition to the opinions and wishes of the unofficial members, who represented in Council the tax payers of the Colony. It was in vain that independent members protested; the order had gone forth, and the official ten weighed down the opposition of the unofficial six!

The Railway Sinking Fund Bill.

In the month of August following, the local Government received a reply from Mr. Secretary Cardwell, in reference to the disallowance of the military votes by the Legislative Council, in which the Acting Governor was instructed to make the payments from the Colonial funds, and apply to the Council for a covering vote for the amount. These orders were not immediately carried out. The local authorities shrank from this forced collision with the Council, and the Colonial Secretary and Queen's Advocate, who had both voted against the military items, entered in the Executive Council strong protests against this impolitic and harsh proceeding, as hurtful to the feelings, and detrimental to the dignity, of the Council, and at the same time leading to results which it would be most desirable to avert. (Appendix, No. IX.) These remonstrances were forwarded home, but in vain. The Secretary of State was told by the Ceylon Executive that it would be undesirable to compel the Government majority to force those votes through an unwilling Council, and that "the more desirable course would be to authorise the payment of the rejected allowances, as a charge sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, in the same manner as the other allowances paid to the military." But Mr. Secretary Cardwell thought otherwise, and succeeded in rendering the mode of payment as offensive as possible to a Colony, which, through its representatives, had protested against repeated slights and continued neglect.

The collision with Council.

On the 2nd of November 1864, the Colonial Secretary laid on the Council table copies of the Despatch in reply to the above-mentioned protests, and of a Memorandum on the military expenditure of the Island, which accompanied it. (Appendix, No. X.)

This Despatch not only repeated the instructions in reference to the reversal of the votes of Council, but instructed the local Government to prepare, and pass without delay a *permanent* ordinance for increasing the yearly amount paid by the Colony for its military establishments, until it should reach the sum of 170,000 £. It is true this was accompanied by the promise of an inquiry by the Council or by a commission; but any decision that might be arrived at after such inquiry was anticipated in the Despatch, which concluded with the assurance that the Legislative Council should consider this decision as the answer of Her Majesty to their loyal and respectful address. In the Memorandum, it is attempted to be shown that the Legislative Council possesses no rights or privileges, and that

Military Despatch and Memorandum.

Lord Grey, in his Despatch of 1848, merely referred to what it might be desirable to establish as the future practice. It deals with the whole question of our military establishments from an entirely imperial point of view, declares that no sensible reduction can be made in the strength of the forces; that the garrisons of Galle and Trincomalee are as much needed for local purposes as those of any other station; that the Island will not suffer by these additional exactions, for that the existing surpluses have been created without any detriment to the Civil Establishments; and that but for the *wise economy* of the late Governor, Sir Charles MacCarthy, these payments could never have been demanded.

The long-sought inquiry was thus granted, but only upon terms which completely prejudged the whole matter, as regards our military requirements. The concluding paragraph of the Memorandum, so eulogistic of the financial wisdom of the late Government, forms in reality the most trenchant endorsement of the vote of censure passed by the Council on the "parsimonious policy" of the local administration. The Secretary of State and the Council are of one mind as to the fact that, "but for the admirable management" of the late Sir Charles MacCarthy, "it would have been impossible to issue proposals of the present character." But the Minister and the Colony are completely at issue, when the former declares that the surplus thus arbitrarily appropriated has been created "without interfering with the Civil Expenditure of the Colony for annual services and improvements." It is to be presumed that the Colonial Minister *read* the document which he sent forth under the authority of his name; yet strange to say that, at the time he sanctioned the statement in regard to the efficiency of the Civil Establishments, he had in his possession Reports on the Police, on the Post Office, and on the Public Works Department, all showing in forcible language the starved condition and inefficiency of those departments of the Public Service, and thereby lending weight to the charge made in the Council's reply to the address, that the interests of the public had been sacrificed to the parsimonious policy of the Government. The Secretary of State having ignored the existence of this evidence, it becomes necessary to refer to the reports and other documents, in order to justify the charge preferred against the local Government by the late unofficial Members of Council.

The Police Force.

The police force of the Island had been for years complained of, as composed of men underpaid and incompetent to perform the duties assigned them. To meet these public complaints, the Government instituted an official inquiry, which was, however, closed against the press and the public. It transpired soon after, that the evidence elicited before this exclusive Committee was of a character most damaging to the Ceylon police; and if proofs were wanted on this point, we have them in the great changes *since then* effected in the force, by which the pay for constables has been considerably increased, and a larger European element introduced into it. The evidence taken by this Committee, and the report which accompanied it, were in the hands of the Secretary of State, when he challenged the statement put forth by the unofficial Members of Council relative to the inefficient state of many of the Public Departments.

Judicial Department.

The retiring members made allusion also to the Judicial Department, the efficiency of which, it was stated by them, was greatly marred by the combination of judicial and revenue function in one officer in some of the larger towns of the Island, and where, in years past, those duties, so dissimilar in character, had been discharged by separate functionaries. It was alleged that, whilst the Revenues of the Crown and the interests of the people suffered, the civil cases in the district courts of those places had fallen into considerable arrears, which became a source of injury to suitors and practitioners. This was matter of public notoriety. Addresses had been presented to the Acting Governor on this subject, and were noticed by him in his replies, and in his "Notes on Tours of Inspection," forwarded to the Secretary of State for his information. During the past few months the justice of these complaints has been, to some extent, admitted by the appointment of separate judicial officers to the towns where their absence had been chiefly felt.

Educational Department.

That the Educational Department suffered not less than any other, by an injudiciously parsimonious policy, there are abundant proofs in the last Reports of the Inspector of Schools, who shows that, by the discontinuance of the training school for teachers, and the consequent dearth of intelligent and competent persons to preside over the majority of the public schools, a most lamentable state of things has been brought about. During the present year, a deputation on the subject of education has waited on the Governor, who expressed himself willing to grant an inquiry into the system, and this inquiry has since been conceded. (See Appendix, No. XI.)

The Fiscal's Department.

The Fiscal's Department, although of great importance, is in the generality of cases entrusted to the hands of very young and inexperienced men, whilst the subordinate officers and peons are so few in number, and so badly paid, that the work of the department has frequently come to a dead lock. It is often found impossible to obtain service of a process, and as a consequence the rightful claims of many creditors are frustrated through the inefficiency of this branch of the service.

Surveyor General's Department.

The strength of the Surveyor General's Department was considerably reduced, a few years ago, during the absence of its chief in England. The detrimental character of this proceeding has since been demonstrated in the utter inability of the existing staff to keep the current work of the office in hand, whilst the general survey of Crown lands, and the laying out of allotted temple lands, have entirely fallen into neglect, and the Government has long felt itself compelled to procure the aid of a private surveyor, to whom a contract has been given for surveying 150,000 acres of temple lands.

The

Although last not least in importance amongst those branches of the public service, which have suffered from a mistaken economy on the part of Government, may be mentioned the "Public Works Department." Towards the end of the Session of 1863, a Committee of the Legislative Council was appointed, on the motion of Mr. Capper, one of the then unofficial members, "to inquire into and report upon the system under which the votes for public works are expended."

The voice of the public had long been raised against the inadequacy of this department to execute the works for which large votes of public money were annually granted; and this was fully supported by the evidence laid before the Committee. When the Report was published, it was a mere echo of public opinion, for the charge of undue parsimony was thereby fully justified.

This Report, drawn up by an equal number of unofficials and officials, of which latter two were members of the executive, declares that, owing to the absence of efficient and honest overseers of work, "the value sacrificed, through incompetency and other causes, has been estimated in evidence at from five to ten per cent. of the total expenditure by this means; in other words, at from 5,000 £. to 10,000 £. per annum." Again, the Report says, when speaking of European road officers, "it appears that a number of these useful officers were discharged or drafted into pioneer corps in 1860 or 1861, leaving their working parties in the Central Province to the care of native overseers. The roads in their charge were, up to the end of 1859, in good order; since that time they have generally been in a state of disrepair. It is believed that the pay of such officers would be much more than saved in the faithful rendering of check rolls, and saved many times over in the quality of the work performed." (*Report on Public Works*, p. vi.)

It is not alone in supervision that this public department had suffered. The Committee, after alluding to the inadequate pay and the indifferent care bestowed on the road coolies, go on to say,—“The result of this state of things has been that in the Kandy District alone, the available force of labourers rarely exceeds one-half of the number required, and frequently is not more than one-fourth. Desertions are of daily occurrence; and of a large body of Tamils imported during this year from Negapatam at the cost of the department, by far the greater number have absconded. The reason of these desertions appears, by accumulated evidence, to be the inferior circumstances of the road coolie as compared with any other description of labourers." (*Report on Public Works*, p. vii.)

If further proof were wanted of the unwise system of parsimony, which has so long cramped the energies and ruined the efficiency of this large department, entrusted with the expenditure of one-fourth the votes of the Legislature, it would be found in the fact that, on several occasions, when towards the end of the year the annual votes for certain districts had been expended, the Commissioner of Roads received instructions to dismiss many hundreds of labourers, in preference to supplying the moderate funds required for their maintenance or transferring their services to other districts where funds were still available. This order was rigorously enforced against the earnest protests of the Commissioner and his officers, and the department in this manner lost a large number of old and well-trained hands who never returned to the employ.

The actual position of the Public Works Department cannot be better stated than in the language of the committee report already quoted, in which it is stated "that in 1850, the votes for public works were 54,919 £., whilst in 1863 they amounted to 207,203 £. For the direction and supervision of this largely augmented expenditure, the number of officers remains the same, the pioneer force has decreased to one-fourth of its original strength, and the number of ordinary labourers employed by the department is still more deficient. In consequence, the department has been for some years unable to execute the works for which the Council had voted money; and works, generally, have not received adequate supervision." (*Report on Public Works*, p. v.)

This report, so explicit in its condemnation of the existing parsimonious system, had been forwarded to the Secretary of State several months previous to the resignation of the late unofficial members, and must therefore have been in his possession at the time when he stated in his despatch that surpluses had been created without in any way interfering with the ordinary services of the colony—an assertion put forward in refutation of the statement made by the members, that these surpluses had been created by the non-expenditure of the votes assigned to the public departments.

This report has since, indeed, received the sanction of the Secretary of State, upon every recommendation of importance; and the department is, in consequence, undergoing revision.

The facts thus cited, in connexion with the actual condition and working of the public departments alluded to, have considerable influence upon the question now at issue between Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies and the people of Ceylon. They demonstrate what the Council have for years felt to be an intolerable hardship, that when, contrary to their wishes, large annual savings were being made, the interests of the colony were sacrificed by the starvation of those public departments, whose thorough efficiency the material progress and future well-being of the colony greatly depended. There can be no question that, had the Legislative Council within itself the absolute power, as it undoubtedly has the right, to control the expenditure of those resources which are entirely levied from the people, this state of things could not have arisen; for efficiency would have been secured by ample means, and with efficiency the entire votes of Council could have been expended, whereby public works would have been preserved in good order, industry and enterprise aided, and public discontent avoided.

It has been stated, in the course of these observations, that the object of the league is to secure to the Legislative Council the free and uncontrolled disposal of funds, no part of which are drawn from Imperial sources,—all of which are levied in the Island. This statement cannot be too emphatically made, because it has been alleged that the Council does actually possess this power under the despatch recently received from Mr. Secretary Cardwell, in which it is said that once the military expenditure is provided for, the Council will be at liberty to vote all monies for the public service by legislative enactment. To the sophism involved in this assertion, the League desires to direct special attention, because thereon is based their entire complaint.

The League maintain that, with the six unofficial members only, while there are ten official members subject to the orders of the Secretary of State, in respect of all money bills, the supposition that those votes will be unbiassed, is simply a fallacy. It has already been shown how votes refused in one Session, for reasons still held good by those who acted on them, have been passed in the following Session under instructions from the Secretary of State; and so long as this is possible, all independence in the Council must be regarded as a mere delusion. It was on this account that the late unofficial members resigned. It is to remedy this evil that the "League" was formed.

The object of the League is to secure to the Council that freedom in the appropriation of the public revenue which has been promised, but which the Legislature does not possess. And in putting forward this prominent demand, it will be well to direct attention to those Colonies approximating to Ceylon in the mixed character of their population and in other general characteristics.

The West India Colonies.

The West India Colonies more closely resemble Ceylon, in many respects, than any other British Possessions, though far behind in commercial importance and as consumers of British manufactures. Ceylon, like these colonies, has a mixed European and tropical population, with a considerable number of descendants of the two races. They are also alike in another respect, that their legislative and financial duties are administered by two Chambers, though differently constituted, and possessing widely different powers and privileges. The population and revenues of the West India Islands are in all cases far below those of Ceylon. The highest amount of revenue is that of Jamaica, which in 1861 amounted to 275,000 £, whilst that of Ceylon rose to nearly 800,000 £; the lowest amount of revenue in the West India Islands is 4,494 £; yet even in a colony possessing so small a revenue, the complete control of their expenditure is voted in the popular Assembly. In most of the colonies they enjoy the elective franchise, but in those instances in which such is not the case, the preponderance is still given to the unofficial element, sometimes in regard to public expenditure only, at other times to both money-votes and legislation. But in not one instance, however small the colony, however limited its means, do we find such a preponderating power given to the official element as in the case of Ceylon. In Mauritius, which is so similar, in many respects, with our own island,—where the form and elements of the two Councils are so similar to our own, even there the Legislative Council is composed of an *equal* number of official and unofficial members, the Governor being president with no other advantage than that of his "casting votes." Taking a survey of the whole of the British Possessions, we do not find a single colony labouring under such an anomalous Legislative Constitution as that of Ceylon. It is in fact the only colony which, whilst possessing a semblance of legislative freedom, is completely in the hands of the Secretary of State for the colonies. It is difficult to understand why Ceylon, with a revenue of nearly a million sterling, and imports to the extent of 4,000,000 £, should be debarred from the free control of its expenditure, a liberty that is conceded to the little island of Montserrat with a revenue of 4,000 £ a year, and imports to the value of only 24,000 £.

The object sought by the League.

In Ceylon, the six unofficial members were, till recently, appointed with a view to a due representation of the various sections of the community, there being three members representing the European community, one of the Burghers, one the Singhalese, and one the Tamils. Of the three European members, the nomination of two was conceded to the Chamber of Commerce and the Planters' Association, respectively—a concession which was first made by Lord Torrington in 1848, and continued to the present time. After the resignation, however, of the late unofficial members, Sir Hercules Robinson appointed six gentlemen, without any reference to the bodies or classes who had hitherto influenced their nomination. The League do not in any way wish to question the constitutional right of the Governor to nominate any gentlemen, whom he may select, to act as Members of Council; but they desire to call attention to the fact that at large meetings convened for the purpose, in nearly every town of the Island, and in many of the outlying coffee districts, dissatisfaction has been expressed at the mode in which the unofficial members have been selected by the present Governor. It must not be supposed, therefore, that the presence in Council of the six nominees of Sir Hercules Robinson is any answer to the League, or any solution of the question at issue.

Representative Institutions.

It is not necessary to inquire whether a representative institution is suitable to the island. The League does not at present claim the elective franchise. The object sought by the League, and the mode by which it may be attained without any organic or violent change in the Legislative Council, were set forth in the report of a sub-committee of the former body, appointed for the purpose of considering and recommending "such alterations in the constitution of the Legislative Council as may be deemed most suitable to the wants of the island." (See Appendix No. XII.)

They were also embodied in a petition to the Queen, adopted at a meeting of the Central

Central Committee in Colombo, and numerous signed throughout the various districts and towns of the island.—(See Appendix, No. XIII.) The views of the League may be met, either by increasing the number of the unofficials to an equality with the officials, or by giving to the unofficials a majority in all financial matters, which could be effected by the withdrawal of a certain number of officials, or their votes, during the discussion of money bills, and by the appointment of an unofficial president.

The latter course is adopted in some of the smaller West India Colonies, whilst in all the others the unofficial element forms a majority. If in those limited communities the elective franchise and the free and full control of the public expenditure are given to the public, it cannot be too much to ask that the larger and wealthier Island of Ceylon should at any rate possess the latter privilege, a right (it must be remembered) which would be exercised by gentlemen whose nomination will still be sanctioned by the Governor and confirmed by Her Majesty the Queen, and whose tenure of office may be restricted to three or five years.

The public of Ceylon will, at present, be satisfied with such a concession as will give them the enjoyment, through their representatives in Council, of the constitutional right of full control of the local revenues, freed from the dictation of the Governor or the Secretary of State.

This object is so equitable, so moderate, so consistent with the principles of sound Government, that the people of Ceylon cannot bring themselves to believe that their prayer, embodied in a petition to the Queen, and now presented in this statement to the people of Great Britain, will be rejected. On the contrary, they look with confidence for support to those just principles which have ever distinguished the British Government; and they trust that the same equity which marks the administration of other colonies will be at once extended to the Island of Ceylon.

— No. 8. —

(No. 169.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor Sir *Hercules G. R. Robinson*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 3 October 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt, in your Despatch, No. 188,* of the 13th August, of a letter addressed to me by the Secretary of the Ceylon League, forwarding a statement showing the circumstances which led to the formation of the League, and the object which it seeks to obtain.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos*.

No. 8.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to Governor Sir Hercules G. R. Robinson.
3 October 1867.

* Page 12.

C E Y L O N.

COPIES OF EXTRACTS OF A DESPATCH FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF *Ceylon* (Sir *H. Robinson*), dated
23 April 1866 (No. 78), to the Colonial Office,
OF A DESPATCH FROM THE Colonial Secretary TO
THE GOVERNOR OF *Ceylon*, dated 12 March 1866
(No. 92); and, OF OTHER CORRESPONDENCE OR
PAPERS relating to the PETITION TO HER MAJESTY
FROM INHABITANTS OF *Ceylon*.

(*Mr. Watkin.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
6 December 1867.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 4 June 1868;—for,

COPY “of REPORTS from Major *Crossman* and CORRESPONDENCE respecting
the LEGATION and CONSULAR BUILDINGS in *China* and *Japan*.”

Treasury Chambers, }
4 June 1868.

G. SCLATER-BOOTH.

— No. 1. —

COPY of TREASURY MINUTE, dated 22nd December 1865.

MY Lords have under consideration Mr. Hammond's letter of 12th September last, making inquiry as to the progress of the arrangements contemplated for sending out a person qualified to advise upon and undertake the superintendence of consular buildings in China and Japan; also the Despatch of Sir E. Hornby, contained in Mr. Hammond's letter of 6th October last (14,829), urging the importance of a decision being speedily come to by Her Majesty's Government, regarding some general measure for providing consular buildings in those countries; and Mr. Hammond's letter of 5th instant, enclosing a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister in Japan; and a letter from the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs to Sir H. Parkes, relative to the construction of a temporary legation at Yeddo.

1. Referring to previous correspondence, and especially the memorandum on the consular buildings required in China, transmitted to this Board in the Foreign Office Letter of 3rd April last, my Lords cannot doubt the importance of the question with which they have to deal.

Notwithstanding the frequent interruptions in the course of trade between this country and the empires of China and Japan, occasioned by rebellions and other causes in both countries, the commercial relations of Great Britain with those countries have been rapidly increasing.

From a Return supplied by the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade, it appears that the value of the imports from China ports (including Hong Kong) into the United Kingdom, which, in 1860, amounted to 9,323,764 *l.*, had increased to 15,549,119 *l.* during the year 1864, while the value of the exports of British produce into China (including Hong Kong), although exhibiting an increase, amounted in the year 1864 to 4,711,478 *l.* against 5,318,036 *l.* in 1860, the result of the comparison showing a total increase in the value of exports and imports from and to the United Kingdom and China (including Hong Kong) during those five years, of 5,618,797 *l.*

1860:	Total Exports and Imports	-	14,641,800
1864:	Ditto	-	20,260,590
	Increase	-	5,618,790

In the case of Japan, the value of British produce exported to Japanese ports, which in 1860 was nil, rose in the year 1864 to 627,383 *l.*, while the imports into the United Kingdom from Japan increased during the same period from 167,511 *l.* to 1,423,819 *l.*, showing a total increase of exports and imports of 1,883,691 *l.*

1860:	Total Trade	-	167,511
1864:	Ditto	-	2,051,200
	Increase	-	1,883,689

From these Returns it is evident that, before long, my Lords will be called upon to sanction the formation of consular establishments for the protection of the interests of the trade, and the provision of necessary accommodation in many of the principal seaports in both empires.

The difficulty of finding even temporary accommodation for the existing establishments has been found to be extremely great.

In some cases even temporary accommodation cannot be had, and Her Majesty's consular officers have in consequence been subjected to much inconvenience.

In other cases the accommodation is unsuitable, and the rent charged for it enormous.

See Sir E. Hornby's Letter of
21 July 1865, in
As 14,829/65.

As regards building, Her Majesty's Government are in the power, to a great extent, of native builders, whose workmanship is defective, and whose charges are extravagant.

In considering the course to be now taken, it seems desirable to review the present position of the question, and the measures already adopted.

In the Estimates for 1865-6, provision is made for consular officers at 14 ports in China, irrespective of the legation at Peking, viz. :—

1. Canton.	6. Ningpo.	11. Hankow.
2. Macao.	7. Shanghai.	12. Teng-chow.
3. Swatow.	8. Taiwan.	13. Tien-tsen.
4. Amoy.	9. Chin-Kiang.	14. New-cheang.
5. Foo-chow.	10. Kiu-Kiang.	

My Lords will proceed to state the condition of the establishment at each of those places, as regards consular buildings or accommodation, the expenditure which has been authorised, and the sums which have been voted by Parliament.

1. *Canton*.—Since 1862, this Board has sanctioned an expenditure amounting to \$44,000 on consular and interpreter's residences, and offices and attending expenses, ($\frac{15,762}{62}$), and Parliament in 1863 voted 9,000 *l.* for the purpose.

In February 1864 the plans for those buildings were sanctioned.

2. *Macao*.—Although a consular agent has been established, my Lords understand that it is not considered that the interests of British trade require that a consular establishment, such as has been formed at the China ports, should be maintained there.

3. *Swatow*.—In 1863 this Board sanctioned the acceptance of an offer made by Mr. Bradly, the United States Vice Consul, to sell certain buildings which he had recently erected opposite to Swatow for \$25,370, with a view to their conversion into a residence for the consul with offices (9163/63); and in 1864 a vote was taken for 6,000 *l.* for the purchase of a house, &c., for the consulate.

In 1865 the expenditure of \$3,660 was sanctioned by the Treasury for the erection of a gaol at Swatow, and 900 *l.* was voted by Parliament.

4. *Amoy*.—In 1862 the Treasury sanctioned the acceptance of an offer made by Mr. Tait to sell and adapt for the accommodation of the consular establishment a range of buildings at Koolongseu for \$24,000, and 5,050 *l.* has been voted in 1862 and 1865 for the purpose.

5. *Foo-chow-foo*.—In 1857, 5,000 *l.* was voted for consular buildings, and they were constructed.

In 1862 an expenditure of 5,705 *l.* was returned, the excess over the amount voted being paid out of the chest as a contingent expenditure.

In 1864 a portion of the original buildings having become so dilapidated as not to be worth repairing, an expenditure of \$6,450 was sanctioned by this Board for constructing a smaller and more substantial building for the student interpreters, and in 1865, 1,600 *l.* was voted for the purpose.

6. *Ningpo*.—Consul Forrest and Acting Surveyor General Wilson stated, in 1864, that the present consulate buildings were fast becoming uninhabitable, having been erected 20 years ago, and the white ant having destroyed the woodwork. Moreover, that it is inconveniently situated, being two miles from the anchorage and foreign settlements. Her Majesty's Government possess a most convenient site for a consulate on the banks of the river, and plans were forwarded by Surveyor Wilson for buildings to accommodate a consul, interpreter, and two assistants, and also for a gaol for \$40,300; but this Board has no information as to the progress of the buildings.

7. *Shanghai*.—A considerable quantity of land was ceded to Her Majesty's Government at Shanghai for a sum of 3,033 *l.*

Of this land sales have been effected to the extent of 54,296 *l.*, and a portion has been leased to the Admiralty for a coal dépôt.

Between 1851 and 1864 votes were taken in different Sessions of Parliament, amounting in the whole to 16,817 *l.*, for the erection and repair of consular buildings and a gaol on a portion of the land so ceded, and 2,000 *l.* for a church.

In 1863, alterations and repairs were sanctioned at an expense of 4,500 taels (1,500 *l.*)

A judicial establishment having been formed at Shanghai in 1864, it has become necessary to erect a court-house, and to provide accommodation for the Judge, Sir E. Hornby, and the legal officers.

Estimates and plans have been transmitted by Sir H. Parkes, exhibiting a probable cost (including interpreters and assistants) of from 27,000 to 30,000 taels (9,000 *l.* to 10,000 *l.*).

In October 1865, Sir E. Hornby and Consul Winchester urge a decision regarding the necessary buildings for the judicial establishment. Sir E. Hornby states, that the only two buildings at Shanghai which could be made available, and even then not without expense, could not be hired at a less rent than 2,500 *l.* a year. Eight-roomed houses, he states, for private residences, let at from 1,500 *l.* to 3,000 *l.* a year; and he adds, "all temporary arrangements for providing accommodation for the court will be as unsatisfactory as they will be costly."

He suggests that the Admiralty should restore the plot of land assigned to them for a coal store, and which is unsuited for the purpose, that the court-house should be built upon it, and he transmits a rough plan and estimate of 3,500 *l.*

8. *Taiwan*.—There is a vice-consulate at Taiwan, but it has not been deemed expedient to submit a proposal for the erection of consular buildings, until there shall be further experience as to the port in Taiwan (Formosa), where the consulate may be most advantageously established.

9. *Chin-Kiang*.—A consulate has been established here, but it has not been deemed expedient to submit a proposal for the erection of consular buildings, until it shall have been proved, by further experience, whether any and what kind of agency is necessary.

10. *Kiu-kiang*.—A consular establishment has been formed for this port, consisting of a consul, interpreter, and assistant. Accommodation for these is required, as also consular offices, with court-house and prison, but no steps have as yet been taken to provide them.

11. *Han-Kow*.—Here also it appears that land has been conceded to Her Majesty's Government, and a portion of it sold to the extent of at least \$ 29,933.

In 1863 a plan was submitted for the erection of consular buildings at a cost of 14,500 taels (4,833 *l.*), and authorised by Sir F. Bruce ($\frac{15,532}{6.3}$), and 7,000 *l.* voted by Parliament in 1864 and 1865.

12. *Teng-chow or Chefoo*.—The establishment at this port, for which accommodation will have to be provided, consists of a consul, with family; an assistant; consulate offices; the estimated cost \$ 2,800 (583 *l.*) is to be inserted in the next year's estimates; court room and prison; but no proposal has yet been made for the erection of consular buildings.

13. *Tien-tsen*.—Here also a considerable tract of ground has been ceded to Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Wade, Her Majesty's acting Minister, in his letter to Foreign Office of 22nd June 1865, recommends that it shall be sold, except so much as is required for the site of a prison, &c.

Plans and estimates for consulate houses, offices, and prisons, were transmitted in November last; cost, \$ 32,260.

The present cost of providing temporary accommodation is 1,225 *l.* a year, and the accommodation will cease 31st October 1866.

No vote has yet been taken for these buildings.

14. *New-Cheang*.—In 1865 an expenditure of \$ 6,100 was sanctioned by this Board (490/65), for raising and river facing the ground ceded to Her Majesty's Government for a consulate, and 1,500 *l.* was voted for the purpose, but no further steps have been taken to provide accommodation for the consular officers.

Besides these, votes to the extent of 3,159 *l.* have been taken for providing a vice-consular residence at *Whampoa*, and its erection authorised; and the Treasury have sanctioned the erection of a portion of a vice-consular residence at *Chefoo*.

Pekin.—In 1862 an expenditure of 5,750 *l.* was sanctioned by this Board for the purchase and repairs of the British Embassy house at Peking, and a vote was taken accordingly.

In 1863 an additional outlay of 257 *l.* for repairs was sanctioned, and was voted accordingly in 1864.

As a result from the foregoing statement, it appears that there are three consulates where consular buildings have been either already erected or their erection sanctioned, viz. :—

- | | | |
|------------|------------------|------------|
| 1. Canton. | 2. Foo-chow-foo. | 3. HanKow. |
|------------|------------------|------------|

Two, viz., *Amoy* and *Swatow*, in which buildings already erected have been purchased, two, viz., *Kin-Kiang* and *Taiwan*, in respect of which it is not deemed expedient to incur any expense at present.

And six, viz. :—

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Shanghai, | 4. Tien-tsen, |
| 2. Ningpo, | 5. Kiu-Kiang, |
| 3. New-cheang, | 6. Teng-chow, |

in respect of which it seems necessary to take immediate steps to complete or provide the requisite accommodation.

JAPAN.

In 1862 the Japanese Government proposed to build and fortify a residence for the British Legation at Yeddo, and keep it in repair, for a perpetual payment of 1,000 *l.* a year, but the proposal was declined by this Board.

The erection of a temporary legation is now in progress of negotiation between Sir H. Parkes and the Japanese Government, and the land has been marked out, but it seems doubtful whether in the present state of feeling at Japan the negotiation will be brought to a successful issue.

Although in the present unsettled state of things in Japan it may be premature to make any arrangements for erecting consular buildings, my Lords are informed, by their assistant secretary, that in an interview which he had with Sir R. Alcock on his return from Japan, he was assured by him that the requirements for legation and consular buildings at Yokohama, Nagasaki, and Hakodadi could not be estimated at less than 30,000 *l.*

Since the year 1850, my Lords find that upwards of 64,000 *l.* has been voted by Parliament for the buildings referred to; in addition to which there is reason to suppose that considerable sums have been expended out of the amounts received for the sales of portions of the land ceded to Her Majesty's Government at the several ports.

£. 92,785 has been reported to the Audit Office as having been received, and
14,592 to the Treasury.

£. 107,377
41,238 of this has been paid into the Exchequer.

£. 66,139 should therefore remain in the Treasury Chest. No statements of expenditure have, however, yet been furnished to this Board, and no reports as to the state and progress of the works.

My Lords find that in March last a conference was held at the Office of Works with the view of considering the best course which might be taken in order to insure, as far as possible, the adoption of proper plans and estimates for consular buildings in China and Japan, and in order also to provide an efficient supervision of the works during their progress.

The conference was attended by their Lordships' assistant secretary and Mr. Shelley on the part of this Board, by Mr. Alston on the part of the Foreign Office, and by Mr. Austin and Mr. Hunt on the part of the Department of Works; and they had the advantage of the presence of Sir F. Bruce, Mr. Consul Medhurst, Mr. Cleverly, Superintendent of Works at Hong Kong, and Sir E. Hornby.

The great difficulties, united by circumstances, of the economical construction of buildings in China and Japan, and the necessity of vigilant and efficient supervision, and the aggravation of these difficulties by the necessity of frequent reference home for instructions or authority, were forcibly pointed out by Sir F. Bruce, Mr. Cleverly, and Mr. Medhurst, and they unanimously recommended as the only course in any degree calculated to effect the object, that an Imperial officer should be sent out. And,—

With reference to the works now in progress or in contemplation at the several ports in China and Japan, that the officer selected for this duty should be

be fully competent to judge as to, and to decide upon, the necessary accommodation in each case, and the plans and mode of obtaining it, that he should have the full confidence of Her Majesty's Government, and that as large powers as might be proper should be given to him, both as regards the deciding upon plans and supervising and making payments to those engaged in the construction of the works during their progress.

Having regard to the difficulties adverted to and the large cost which will probably have to be incurred in connection with consular buildings in China and Japan, my Lords, after full consideration, are of opinion that it will be desirable to send out an officer, as recommended by the gentlemen who met in conference.

It does not, however, appear to them that a competent architect, not in the employment of Government, would be obtained, except at a rate of remuneration disproportionate to that usually allowed in the public service; and my Lords are not of opinion that any architect now in the Civil Service could be selected for this purpose without much public inconvenience.

It appears therefore desirable, if the Earl of Clarendon should concur, that their Lordships should request the Secretary of State for War to obtain from the Commander in Chief the services of an experienced officer of Her Majesty's Engineers, conversant with making plans and with the construction of buildings; that this officer, after studying the requirements of the Consular Department and obtaining other necessary information in England, should receive full instructions and powers regarding the discharge of the duties to be committed to him in China and Japan; and that if it should, on inquiry, be found expedient, he should be authorised to purchase and send out such materials as might generally be found useful and be available in the construction of the buildings, and that he should proceed to the east, furnished with the means of making, on his own authority, within certain limits, out of the balance now available on the vote for this purpose, the necessary payments during the progress of the works and of withholding such payments in the event of defective work.

It would also be the business of this officer to ascertain and report upon the ground at each port ceded to Her Majesty's Government, and the manner, whether by sale or otherwise, in which such ground can be made most advantageously available for the purposes for which it has been ceded, and to report and make arrangements respecting the future repairs and maintenance of buildings at the consulates belonging to Her Majesty's Government.

He should examine into the state of all existing buildings, and should consider whether, for consular purposes, and with a view to economy, buildings in the European or in Chinese style are most desirable. He should institute a comparison between the houses originally constructed by merchants for their own purposes, which have been acquired by purchase, and those which have been erected by Government under the superintendence of the Surveyor General at Hong Kong, in order that he may be in a position to advise Her Majesty's Government whether the plan of building on their own account or of acquiring by purchase buildings constructed by others, is the most advisable.

He should be instructed to send home, as soon as possible, estimates for the entire work required to be done at each station, distinguishing the amounts which would come in course of payment in each year, in order that this Department and Parliament may be made fully aware of the prospective cost of the Eastern Consulates.

Transmit copy of this Minute to Mr. Hammond, and request that he will submit it to the Earl of Clarendon, for his Lordship's consideration.

— No. 2. —

COPY OF TREASURY MINUTE, dated 16th February 1866.

WRITE to Captain Crossman, R. E., that Her Majesty's Government having determined to send an officer of Royal Engineers to report upon and make general arrangements for the construction and maintenance of consular and judicial buildings in China and Japan, the Secretary of State for War, with the concurrence of his Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commander in Chief, has nominated him for this service.

The enclosed copy of a Treasury Minute of 22nd December last will explain to him in general terms the requirements of the various Consulates, and the steps which have been already taken to provide for them, and will instruct him as to the nature of the duties entrusted to him.

Transmit likewise copy of a Memorandum prepared in the Foreign Office upon this subject in March last, and state that copies of any other papers with which he may desire to be furnished will be supplied to him.

From the correspondence which he has already had an opportunity of perusing, Captain Crossman will have seen that previously to the Treaty of Tientsin, the commerce of foreign countries with China was confined to the five ports of Canton, Shanghai, Ningpo, Amoy, and Foochowfoo.

To these five ports eight others were added by the Treaty of Tientsin.

It appears that of these 13 consulates, there are, independently of Shanghai, where extensive consular buildings were erected for some years, three where consular buildings have been either already erected, or their erection sanctioned, viz., Canton, Foochowfoo, and Hankow; two, Amoy and Swatow, in which buildings already erected have been purchased, and two, Chinkiang and Taiwan, where it has not been considered expedient to incur any expense until, in the one case, it is ascertained what sort of agency, if any, is required, and in the other, whether Taiwan is the most desirable port in Formosa for the residence of Her Majesty's Consul.

My Lords have, however, to remark with regard to Taiwan, that an offer has lately been made by a foreign merchant to sell a house to Her Majesty's Government as a consulate for the sum of 3,400*l.*, and it will be Captain Crossman's duty to furnish a report as to the expediency of making this purchase, should a consulate be ultimately established there.

At the other five ports, Ningpo, New-cheang, Tientsin, Kiu-Kiang, and Teng-chow, Captain Crossman will have to consider the best and most economical manner of providing the necessary accommodation, either by the erection or purchase of buildings. In 1864 it was deemed necessary to add to the consular establishment a supreme judge and other judicial officers, for whom suitable residences and a court-house and offices will have to be provided at Shanghai.

This is one of the most urgent and important matters which will demand Captain Crossman's attention.

Besides the places already mentioned, it will be requisite for Captain Crossman to visit and report upon the works already sanctioned for the erection of the vice-consular residences at Whampoa and Taku; at Pekin the buildings occupied by Her Majesty's legation may probably demand alterations or repair, and arrangements, as my Lords are informed, may possibly have to be made for the accommodation of a married Secretary of Legation.

The unsettled condition of affairs in Japan renders it impossible for their Lordships to give Captain Crossman any precise instructions at present with regard to the buildings which may be required for Her Majesty's diplomatic and consular service in that country.

At Nagasaki it is understood that some alterations of, or additions to, the present buildings are necessary, as also at Yokohama, but the requirements of the latter consulate will be dependent upon the course which may be adopted respecting the residence of Her Majesty's legation at Yeddo, where buildings adapted to the peculiar exigencies of the situation may hereafter have to be erected; these, however, according to present appearances, will probably be the subject of a special arrangement between Her Majesty's Minister and the Japanese Government; but there will probably, at all events, be required at Yokohama a suitable residence for the mission; but upon this point Captain Crossman will communicate with Sir Harry Parkes. Consulates may not improbably be established either at the port of Hiogo or city of Osaka; but as these places are not yet opened to British residence for some time to come, any portion relating to them may be suspended for the present.

The reconstruction of the Hakodadi Consulate, recently destroyed by fire, has been undertaken by the Japanese Government, at a charge of 10 per cent. on the rental.

The general rule to be observed in providing accommodation at the consulates is, that a Consul, Vice-consul or Interpreter are considered entitled to accommodation for their families, while officers of the rank of assistant and student interpreter are only allowed bachelor quarters.

As regards the number and rank of the officers for whom provision is to be made, Captain Crossman will be guided in each case by the estimates for the consular establishments prepared for Parliament, of which enclose copy.

The character and extent of the accommodation in each case must be regulated by the rank of the officer for whom it is intended, but it should be confined within the strictest limits of economy compatible with the requirements of the public service and the convenience of the officer.

A limited amount of accommodation, in addition to that which may be needed by the officer and his family, may possibly be required at some of the stations for the reception of official personages of high rank who from time to time may visit the ports, but Captain Crossman will be careful to treat these cases as exceptional, and will only provide for them when he is satisfied that the necessity for such accommodation is likely to arise, and that it cannot be afforded in any other way by the resources of the locality.

The necessity for providing consular gaols, and the means of enabling the judges when travelling assize to hold other courts, will also engage his attention.

Upon these and other cognate matters much must necessarily be left to Captain Crossman's judgment, and must depend upon the opinions which he will be able to form after personal inspection, it being obviously impossible for their Lordships, upon the scanty information in their possession, to furnish him with minute instructions.

Upon other grounds, moreover, my Lords believe that the public interests will be best served by entrusting him with large discretionary powers, and they do not doubt that their confidence will be justified by the results.

They will, therefore, confine themselves to indicating to him generally the manner in which they would wish him to carry out his mission.

He will proceed in the first instance direct to Hong Kong, where he will probably be able to obtain valuable information in the Surveyor General's Department as to the places which will require his more immediate attention, and also as to the means available, and the mode of contracting for the construction of buildings in China. My Lords hope also that it will be in the power of the military authorities at that settlement to place at his disposal the services of a certain number of Royal Engineers or trained men of the line who may, in his absence, superintend the works at the various ports, an arrangement which they think would tend materially to ensure a proper execution of the contracts, and they propose to address a communication on this subject to the Secretary of State for War.

He will visit the consulates in such order as the urgency of each case may seem to demand; and as there is no doubt that certain works of pressing necessity, either of repair or construction, will require to be immediately undertaken without the delay of a reference to this country, my Lords will at once authorise the officer in charge of the Treasury Chest to supply him with funds for this purpose, on his requisition, from time to time, to the extent of 10,000 *l*.

This money he will be at liberty to expend upon his own responsibility, but he will keep my Lords fully advised as to the purposes upon which it has been employed, and will include it in the general accounts, which it will be his duty to render to this Board. Should he find it advisable to procure building materials or house fittings from this country, he will address his requisition to their Lordships, who, if they approve of it, will cause the articles required to be procured and sent out to him.

As soon as he has visited all the consulates (including Peking and Yeddo) he will forward to their Lordships, with the least possible delay, a full report upon the whole subject, which will include estimates and plans for the buildings at each place, and will exhibit the total amount of expenditure for which the sanction of Parliament will have to be asked for securing efficient and permanent accommodation for Her Majesty's diplomatic and consular establishments in China and Japan. It will be his duty further to include in his report as precise an estimate as he can form of the annual cost of maintaining these buildings, and the recommendations as to the manner in which the ordinary repairs and alterations should hereafter be executed, and he will likewise report upon the ground at each port ceded to Her Majesty's Government, and the manner, whether by sale or otherwise, in which such ground can be made most available for the purposes for which it has been ceded.

Upon receiving this general report, my Lords will at once proceed to decide whether his estimate is one which they would be justified in proposing to the acceptance of Parliament, and, in the event of their decision being favourable to his proposals, they will authorise him to take the necessary steps for the construction or acquirement of the buildings, and will entrust to him for disbursement the sums which may be voted by Parliament, requiring him to render a strict account with proper vouchers of all expenditure incurred.

The supervision of Her Majesty's consular establishments in China and Japan being vested in Her Majesty's Ministers at Peking and Yeddo, Captain Crossman will be expected to communicate freely with them, and to listen readily to any suggestions or advice which they may think right to offer to him. Should his opinion differ from theirs on any important point, he will at once refer the matter for the decision of Her Majesty's Government.

He will correspond directly with the Board of Treasury upon all matters connected with his mission, but it will facilitate communication with the Foreign Office if his despatches and, when practicable, also the plans and specifications accompanying them should be forwarded in duplicate.

He will also send copies of his despatches to Her Majesty's Ministers in China and Japan, as they may respectively concern the buildings in those countries.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has been requested to furnish him with letters of introduction to Her Majesty's Ministers in China and Japan, and to Sir Edmund Hornby, the Judge of the Supreme Court, as well as to Her Majesty's Consuls, instructing them to afford him every assistance he may require. My Lords will also request the Earl of Clarendon to desire that such clerical assistance as he may stand in need of from time to time may be afforded to him by the consuls.

They have instructed the Comptroller of the Stationery Office to supply him with such articles of stationery as he may require. The Board of Admiralty will be requested to give him a letter of introduction to the Admiral in command on the China station, and to give directions that every facility may be afforded to him in conveying him to the different places which he will have to visit.

As regards his pay and allowances, inform Captain Crossman that the officer in charge of the Treasury Chest at Hong Kong will receive instructions to issue the same to him from the date of his embarkation from this country, viz., 200 *l.* 15 *s.* a year, being his regimental pay of 11 *s.* a day as captain in the Royal Engineers, and 1,400 *l.* a year his civil salary while employed on this service. Captain Crossman will understand that these allowances will cover all his expenses other than those of locomotion from port to port (including the regular steamboat fares and charges in Her Majesty's ships) and the cost of his voyage out and home.

My Lords have caused a passage from Southampton to Hong Kong to be secured for him in the Peninsular and Oriental Company's boat, which will leave Southampton on the 4th March.

He will avail himself as much as possible of the facilities which may be afforded him by the Admiral on the station in his voyages between the different ports, but any expense of conveyance which he may be obliged necessarily to incur will be repaid to him, through the Treasury Chest, upon his furnishing his accounts to this Board.

Transmit copy of the foregoing Minute to Mr. Hammond, for the consideration of the Earl of Clarendon, and request that if his Lordship approves of the instructions which my Lords propose to issue to Captain Crossman, that he will cause Captain Crossman to be furnished with the necessary introductions to Her Majesty's ministers and consuls in China and Japan, and to Sir Edmund Hornby, and that they may be instructed also to afford him every facility, and to render him all the assistance he may require, and that instructions may also be sent to the various consulates to afford him such clerical aid as he may stand in need of from time to time.

his family
or to avoid

—avagant—

— No. 3. —

MAJOR CROSSMAN'S REPORT.

Sir,

Shanghai, 24 November 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that in accordance with the instructions contained in Treasury letter, dated 26th February 1866, I have visited Yedo and the Treaty Ports in Japan, and have to report as follows upon the buildings used for and required by the Diplomatic, Consular, and Judicial Services in that country.

*Major Crossman's Report.**Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.*

DIPLOMATIC BUILDINGS.

Enclosed in Despatch, 16 March 1867.

I. DIPLOMATIC BUILDINGS.

Yedo.—A long, straggling, one-storied building consisting of two blocks with shorter wings at right angles, containing a number of large and lofty rooms communicating with each other, has been built here for the use of Her Majesty's Legation by the Japanese Government.

The building covers a large space of ground, and has attached to it a cook-house and lavatory, and the grounds have been surrounded by a strong and high palisade.

Though it is overlooked by some high ground and the houses in the immediate neighbourhood, it is conveniently situated, being within a few yards of the water, and a jetty having been built for the purpose of landing and embarking.

The main building, however, is so constructed and arranged, that though it affords good accommodation as a summer residence for bachelors, it is quite unsuited for a family, and during winter it would, in its present state, be almost uninhabitable. The materials used in it are very slight; the glass, doors, windows, &c., are badly fixed, and the fitments altogether are of a very inferior description.

The buildings have evidently been put up by the Japanese Government with a view to a temporary residence only of a British Legation at Yedo.

I have recommended certain alterations and additions to make it habitable in winter, but from the manner in which the stoves and pipes in connection with them must be fixed, I fear there will always be great danger of the building catching fire during that season of the year.

Since the buildings have been handed over a great many alterations and additions have been made by the directions of Her Majesty's Minister to make the house adapted for the residence of Europeans. As the original understanding was, that no rent should be paid, the Japanese Government requested that the sum expended on these alterations should be paid by the British Government.

The claim of the Japanese Government

Yedo.—The situation of the temporary Legation, which, as Major Crossman observes, is overlooked by some high ground, has been improved since the date of that officer's report, by Sir H. Parkes having succeeded in obtaining, at a small rent, the hill in question, and including it in the Legation premises. The desirability of this improvement had long been seen, but Sir H. Parkes had found it difficult to persuade the Japanese authorities to agree to it. The removal to Yedo of the Legation staff, and of the Minister's family, having caused some pressure on the accommodation, Sir H. Parkes was able to urge the point with better effect, and an arrangement has lately been concluded under which this hill, and a temple standing on it, have been rented for 18 months for a sum of one hundred and thirty-four dollars twenty-three cents (\$134. 23), and the temple having been rendered habitable by some slight repairs, is at present occupied as the quarters of Messrs. Mitford and Satow.

Major Crossman's opinion of the inferiority of these temporary buildings is doubtless correct, but the accommodation thus obtained is much superior to that of any Japanese temple, which was the only other alternative open to the Minister on his arrival in Japan. The Legation, as is well known, had been quartered in the temple of Fotzenji, from the date of its first establishment in 1859 until its compulsory withdrawal to Yokohama in 1862; and during the interval which elapsed between that date and Sir H. Parkes' arrival in 1865, these temple quarters had fallen into such a state of dilapidation as to be untenable, and were otherwise ineligible from the insecurity of the position for purposes of defence. Being thus unprovided with accommodation of any kind, and obliged on the occasion of his first two visits to Yedo to put up in the temple occupied by the Dutch consul general, Sir H. Parkes determined to urge on the Japanese Government the construction of some temporary buildings rather than the occupation of the Legation in some one of the temples

Major Crossman's Report.

on account of the nature of some of the alterations entitled to some consideration. As, however, from the slight nature of the building, repairs will constantly be required, and more alterations are now necessary, I have come to the conclusion, after conferring with Sir Harry Parkes, that it will be desirable to pay an annual rent for the buildings and ground, on the understanding that the Japanese will pay for all repairs and alterations, and provide new buildings in case the present house be destroyed by fire.

From the cost of building at Yokohama, I estimate the value of the work in connection with the legation buildings at \$25,000.

At the usual rate of 10 per cent. on the outlay, charged by the Japanese at other places, the annual rental would amount to \$2,500, or 530 *l*.

As, however, it is owing to the Japanese themselves that the Legation is obliged to have residences both at Yokohama and Yedo, considering also the great expense which the continued moving backwards and forwards between these two places entails upon Her Majesty's Government, further, that the rental of the buildings at Yokohama will come to upwards of 1,200 *l*. a year, I conceive that it would be sufficient and fair to offer to the Gorojin a rental of 250 *l*. per annum, on the condition that the Japanese Government performs all necessary repairs, and rebuilds the buildings if destroyed.

I would, however, venture to remark, that it appears to me that it would have been better, when making arrangements for the erection of a Legation at Yedo, to have insisted upon the construction of buildings of a more permanent character, and more after the European style.

just, and Sir H. Parkes has accordingly recently arranged that a rental which is not to exceed (\$1,200) Twelve hundred dollars per annum, or say (250 *l*.) Two hundred and fifty pounds, the sum advised by Major Crossman, and which will also include the rent to be paid for the small temple above referred to, shall be paid from the 1st of January of the present year.

The buildings comprise two houses of exactly the same size, one of which is occupied by the minister, and the other by the Legation staff. A good guard house and a range of stabling have been provided. By means of the improvements suggested by Major Crossman, and which have been executed at the charge of the Japanese Government, the buildings were rendered habitable in winter; and when Sir H. Parkes's residence at Yokohama was burned down last January, he removed with his family to the temporary Legation in Yedo, where he now resides, in order to avoid the heavy expense of renting a new house at Yokohama at the exorbitant rates obtaining there since the great fire of November.

Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.

temples proposed by the Japanese Government, and which proved upon inspection to be wholly unsuited to the requirements of a large party of Europeans. On the condition that the building should be of light construction, and partially adapted to Japanese style, the Japanese Government undertook to erect a temporary Legation at their own expense, and in a comparatively short period of time. It would have been vain, however, to have insisted at that date, as Major Crossman appears to think should have been done, on the construction of buildings of a more substantial character, as the Japanese Government would have strenuously resisted any proposal of the kind; nor would the necessities of the case have been met by such an arrangement, if it could have been made, as shelter was immediately required.

In putting up these buildings the Japanese Government were badly served by their contractors, and probably found the building a more expensive work than they had at first supposed, as the value is estimated by Major Crossman at twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.)

The houses, with the exception of the roofs, being wholly composed of wood, for the most part ill seasoned and badly put together, the Japanese authorities saw that their outlay would not be limited to the first cost, but that no inconsiderable sum would also be required to keep such a range of buildings in repair, and habitable in winter as well as in summer. They therefore suggested, after the occupancy had commenced, that a moderate rent should be paid by Her Majesty's Government to meet the cost of repairs, and also to prevent demands being made by other legations for the construction of buildings free of rent, on the ground that this had been done in our case. Major Crossman concurred with Sir H. Parkes in regarding this claim as

Major Crossman's Report.

Yokohama.—On my arrival at this port, I found that Sir Harry Parkes had entered into an arrangement with the Japanese Government, by which they agreed to build on the high ground called the "Bluff," south of the Settlement, the necessary residences and offices for the Legation, at a cost not exceeding \$50,000, which was subsequently increased to \$60,000, for which an annual rental of 10 per cent. on the outlay was to be paid, and that he had employed an American architect (Mr. Bridgens) to prepare plans and superintend the erection of the buildings. Plans had been prepared for—

1st. Minister's residence.

2nd. House for Secretary of Legation.

3rd. Chancery, with quarters for four assistants.

4th. Houses for two married assistants, or one married, and three unmarried.

Besides these, although plans had not then been prepared, it was intended to provide accommodation for:—

5th. One officer and 20 men of the 2-9th Regiment, forming the Legation Guard.

6th. One captain and eight men, military train, forming escort to Minister.

7th. Stables, outhouses, &c.

The foundations of the Minister's residence had been laid before my arrival, so that it was not possible to make any but trivial alterations in the interior arrangements of this house, which, however, with the exception that the reception rooms are on rather too large a scale, will be well adapted for the purpose for which it is intended.

I prepared new designs for the buildings which had not been commenced, and the letters A and B accompanying this Report will explain to their Lordships the reasons for the recommendations I there made.

These recommendations were:—

1. That the Minister's residence should be completed according to the modified design I then gave.

2. That a house be built for the Secretary of Legation.

3. That

Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.

II. DIPLOMATIC BUILDINGS.

Yokohama.—When Sir H. Parkes arrived in Japan in July 1865, the accommodation then occupied by the Legation consisted of the following buildings:—

	Annual Rent.	Dollars.
1. Chancery, assistant's quarters, and barracks for guard	4,200	
2. House of Japanese Secretary	960	
3. House of Officers of Legation Guards	960	
Total Rent	\$6,120	

The first of these buildings did not contain, however, sufficient room for the whole of the staff, and two officers were accordingly accommodated in small Japanese cottages, obtained rent free from the Japanese Government.

Sir H. Parkes, who at first temporarily occupied the Consul's quarters, had accordingly to provide for the accommodation of himself and family, and also for the Secretary of Legation and his family, who arrived in the spring of 1866. Two houses had accordingly to be added to the above, and were obtained at the following rents:—

	Per Annum.	Dollars.
1. Minister's house	3,600	
2. House of Secretary of Legation	2,600	
Total additional Rent	6,200	

It will be seen, therefore, that the total annual cost at which the Legation was lodged in Yokohama was twelve thousand three hundred and twenty dollars (\$12,320.)

High as these rents may appear, being from 20 per cent. to 25 per cent. on the value of buildings and land, they were not in excess of the ordinary rates of Yokohama, and the houses were by no means of a superior description.

The tenants were in all cases bound to keep them in a habitable state of repair, and the inferiority of the woodwork and fastenings rendered patching and mending a perpetual task. Even under the above terms the continuous occupancy of some of these buildings could not be counted on. The necessity of making other arrangements was therefore imperative, but it was only in the direction of the Japanese Government that any hope lay of the necessities of the case being satisfactorily met.

After

Major Crossman's Report.

3. That two small houses should be built side by side; the lower part of one of which would serve as a chancery.

Sir Harry Parkes having said that he would use two of the rooms in his own house for Japanese reception rooms, and his own office; the other part of this, and the whole of the other house, would then serve as quarters for the second secretary, the two interpreters and two assistants, none of whom at the present time happening to be married men.

By this arrangement each gentleman would have two rooms, and there would be a common dining-room for all.

4th. That stables and other out-houses should be built.

5th. That as the camp is not 10 minutes walk from the new Legation, quarters should be provided for the guard and escort in the camp, arrangements for which, I understand, can be easily made with the military authorities, and that all that is required is a small room for the corporal's guard, which will provide the sentry to be stationed at the Minister's door, if necessary.

The cost of these services I estimate at \$60,000 (12,750*l.*), the sum which the Japanese Government is not prepared to exceed. I understood Sir Harry Parkes to say verbally that he agreed to these recommendations generally, but that he would prefer that the officer and men of the escort should have accommodation provided for them in connection with the Legation buildings.

He will, however, doubtless communicate with the Foreign Office on the subject.

If the full amount is expended, it will entail, so long as the Legation remains at Yokohama, an annual rental of 1,275 *l.* a year.

I have some hopes that it may permit of quarters being put up for three student interpreters; though from the fluctuation of prices at Yokohama, I should not wish to reduce the estimate at present.

If not, these gentlemen must be given lodging allowance of \$50 a month, a sum which may appear high, but from all I hear, not a bit too much to enable them to procure decent accommodation, unless they occupied the houses in the native town, placed at the disposal of the Legation by the Japanese Government.

As regards the hired buildings at present in

Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.

After considerable negotiation, the claim being grounded on the residence at Yokohama being rendered obligatory by Japanese shortcomings, Sir H. Parkes succeeded in persuading the Japanese Government, who evince no inclination to spend their funds on such purposes, to erect at Yokohama a range of buildings sufficient for the accommodation of the whole Legation, at a cost that should not exceed sixty thousand dollars, and to let these buildings to the British Government for such time as the latter might require, at a rental of ten per cent. upon the outlay. By this plan permanent accommodation of a character far superior to that hitherto occupied was thus secured at less than half the rent that had previously been paid. In this case Sir H. Parkes stipulated that the buildings should be of foreign construction, and upon plans to be furnished by himself, and that they should be commenced with as little delay as possible.

This agreement was concluded before Sir H. Parkes had received intelligence of Major Crossman's appointment, and he had accordingly to give effect to it as well as he could, with the imperfect professional assistance then available. A contract for the main building had been concluded, and the work commenced before Sir H. Parkes had an opportunity of consulting Major Crossman, who was able, however, at that late period, to introduce improvements into the plans; and by his advice, the private accommodation of the Minister was enlarged. Major Crossman also provided plans for the house of the Secretary of Legation and the chancery assistants' quarters, but left Japan before contracts could be concluded for these buildings.

A contract was agreed to shortly after he left, for the house of the Secretary of Legation, but the two smaller buildings for the assistants and chancery remained unsettled up to the time of the fire, when the cost of building became at once nearly doubled, and it seemed doubtful at one time whether the contractors would be able or willing to complete the engagements they had already made. Eventually, through the assistance of the Japanese Government, an adjustment was arrived at, and contracts for the two smaller houses, on modified plans, were concluded. Small stables to each house will be substituted for the larger range at first contemplated; and the quarters of the mounted escort will remain at the consulate offices. By means of these modifications all the buildings, it is hoped, will be completed by Midsummer. The outlay will not exceed the amount originally proposed; and

Major Crossman's Report.

in the occupation of the Legation, the rent is :—

Minister's Residence.

Per Annum.

The rent of this is not yet actually settled; and a further claim, I hear, will be probably made	- \$ 3,400
House for Secretary of Legation	- 2,600
House for Japanese Secretary (lodging allowance)	- 960
Chancery and quarters for officers of guard and two assistants	- 4,200

amounting to \$ 11,160, or 2,371 *l.* 10 *s.* a year. This sum would have been increased by at least \$ 1,800 a year, were it not that at present Mr. Mitford, the 2nd secretary, Messrs. Satow and Siebold, the two interpreters, and Dr. Willis, the assistant, live in the native houses referred to before as having been placed at the disposal of the Minister by the Japanese authorities.

This sum may therefore be put against the sum which may have to be paid as lodging allowance to the three student interpreters, if quarters cannot be provided for them out of the sum of \$ 60,000.

The saving to Her Majesty's Government when the new buildings are completed, which will probably be at the end of 1867, will therefore amount to the difference between 2,371 *l.* 10 *s.*, the rent now paid, and 1,275 *l.*, or nearly 1,000 *l.* per annum.

This will not constitute the only saving, for the expense of repairs to the buildings now hired is very great; during the year ending 30th June 1866, it amounted to no less a sum than 500 *l.* 9 *s.* 3 *d.*, or nearly 25 per cent. upon the rental, an expense out of all proportion to what, under ordinary circumstances, it ought to have been.

I had no means of judging whether these repairs were absolutely required or not; but as the building used as a chancery and assistant's quarters is in an utter state of dilapidation, indeed hardly safe for any one to live in, and as a good many alterations have been made in the Minister's house, I am not surprised at the large amount for this service, particularly as there appears to have been no clauses in the leases requiring the landlords to perform those repairs, which in England they are generally called upon to do.

This question of repairs, I will report upon generally further on.

There can be no doubt that the arrangement made by the Minister for the construction of the Legation buildings by the

315.

Japanese

Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.

and Sir H. Parkes trusts he will attain the object he has had from the first in view, that of giving up every one of the expensive houses hitherto rented from foreigners (at a total cost, as above stated, of \$ 12,320 per annum) as the agreements for these successively expire.

Major Crossman has pointed out that these arrangements do not include provision for the student interpreters. Sir Harry Parkes trusts, however, that the accommodation of the two establishments at Yedo and at Yokohama will be found to contain sufficient house-room both for the students and for all the members of the staff. Circumstances must regulate the distribution of the officers, but it is not improbable that Yedo may be found a more favourable place for study than Yokohama.

It may here be mentioned that the native houses formerly lent for the use of officers of this Legation by the Japanese Government, and referred to in Major Crossman's report as being occupied by Messrs. Mitford, Willis, Satow, and Siebold, were destroyed in the fire of Yokohama, and similar accommodation is not now obtainable. In consequence, however, of the removal of the Legation to Yedo, it is no longer required.

The question of the repairs of the buildings hitherto occupied at Yokohama may perhaps be more conveniently treated in connection with the report that Major Crossman proposes to furnish on the subject. Sir H. Parkes knows of no other repairs than those which the tenants are required to make in order to keep the houses in habitable condition, and which are rendered frequent by the perishable nature of the buildings. Small additions in the shape of closets, bathrooms, &c., have to be added occasionally to meet the requirements of occupants. The means of forming an opinion as to the necessity or otherwise of these repairs could easily have been furnished to Major Crossman, if he had signified any wish to make them a subject of inquiry. Those in Sir H. Parkes' residence, to which Major Crossman appears particularly to allude, cost seven hundred and three dollars and fifty-five cents (\$ 703/55). The alterations therein mentioned were necessary to adapt one of the oldest and rudest built houses in the settlement, containing only eight rooms, all of which were on a ground floor, to the wants of the Minister and his family, and to meet some of the requirements of a legation. The last occupants were three single French officers; and

B 3

the

Major Crossman's Report.

Japanese Government was the most judicious that under the circumstances could have been made.

Under ordinary circumstances, it appears to me that it would be preferable for the British Government to erect the buildings themselves, and be independent of the Japanese Government, for from the little I have seen, I have no doubt that any work done in connection with that Government will be carried out with great difficulty; but in this particular case, when it is still doubtful as to what place the Tycoon's Government will eventually be established in, it would have been most inadvisable to have incurred any expense in erecting permanent buildings, which might not have been required for more than one or two years.

CONSULAR BUILDINGS.

Kanagawa or Yokohama.—According to the estimates for the consular establishments, prepared for Parliament, provision is to be made at this port for a consul, vice-consul, Dutch interpreter, and two assistants.

A Dutch interpreter being no longer required, an English Japanese interpreter will now be entitled to accommodation for his family, and Mr. Dohmen, formerly Dutch interpreter, now acts as assistant.

All the buildings required for the consular service here are hired, the total amount of rent per annum being,—

1. Consular office and gaol - \$ 874.42
2. Consul's residence - - 2,220.00
3. Vice-consul's ditto - 1,200.00

In this house, the vice-consul being, unmarried, one of the student interpreters, a married man, is at present quartered.

Mr. Dohmen's residence, \$ 1,320.

4. Interpreter's (Mr. Lowder) residence \$ 1,200, amounting to \$6,814.42, or 1,448l. a year.

With regard to No. 3, Mr. Dohmer's house, this gentleman, who is now doing the duty of assistant, is not, according to the Treasury instructions, entitled to accommodation for his family. Sir Harry Parkes, however, thought that as he had formerly held the office of Dutch interpreter, he ought to have a house, and authorised the rent to be paid accordingly. Should, however, this not be approved by Her Majesty's Government, a sum of \$ 50 per month is all that should be paid to him as lodging allowance. Before Mr. Dohmen's

Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.

the agent of the landlord refused to make the repairs himself.

Without them the house would have been uninhabitable by a family; the choice therefore lay between making them at the Government cost or engaging a more expensive residence.

III. CONSULAR BUILDINGS.

Yokohama.—Consular accommodation at Yokohama consists of three lots, a bund or water frontage lot, a hill lot on which part of the British camp at present stands, and a town lot now occupied by the consular offices and gaol. Major Crossman justly remarks upon the inconvenient situation of the latter lot, and advises the removal of the offices and gaol to the bund lot. The consul, Mr. Mayburgh, in his despatch, urges the expediency of concentrating the whole of the establishment, both residences and offices, on the bund lot, as at the time he wrote it seemed probable that an opportunity might occur of obtaining some extension of this very eligible site. This however, proved to be impossible, as the claims of the United States, France, Prussia, Switzerland, and Portugal to accommodation within the same block have not admitted of the British portion, which is already large in comparison with that of the other consulates, being increased. With the view, however, of preventing the inconvenience that would be created by the construction on this—the most central spot of Yokohama—of several gaols (as each consul may be required to take charge of his own prisoners), Sir H. Parkes has proposed that the British gaol should remain where it now stands, and that a general gaol for the use of the other nationalities should be constructed on that portion of the same lot which is now occupied by the British consular offices, the British Government receiving in exchange for the ground thus surrendered another lot, which is large and far more conveniently situated. If Her Majesty's Government see fit to approve this proposal,

Major Crossman's Report.

Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.

Dohmen's and Mr. Lowden's houses were taken I inspected them, and wrote memoranda concerning them to the Minister, copies of which are enclosed.

The rent for the present consular offices and gaol is comparatively low, but they are not situated in a very convenient place; a site for them has been reserved on the bund near the custom house, which will afford room for them, besides quarters for the two assistants, if married.

The cost of erecting them will be,—

Consular offices, with quarters	
for assistants - - -	\$ 8,000
Gaol and constables - - -	3,500
Stables and out-houses, and	
laying out ground, &c.,	
fencing, &c. - - -	1,500
Total cost, say \$ 13,000 =	£. 2,762. 5.

At 10 per cent. rental the annual charge would amount to \$ 1,300 or 276 *l.* 5 *s.*; but to the sum now paid must be added lodging allowance of \$ 1,200 per annum for two assistants, which should be saved when the new buildings are completed. The saving would therefore be \$ 2,074 less \$ 1,300, or \$ 774, equal to 165 *l.* per annum, nearly. As, however, I would recommend that these buildings should be built by the English and not by the Japanese Government, I consider that 8 per cent. would be a fair value to put on money expended from the English Exchequer; allowing for the cost of repairs the annual saving should, therefore, rather be estimated at 220 *l.* Another site for consular purposes has been reserved on the bluff; it is at some distance from the offices, and this is the reason why I have provided a small table in connection with the latter, but it would be difficult to find another site nearer, certainly none so good for a dwelling-house.

At present the consular site forms part of the ground on which the camp is situated, and so long as one of Her Majesty's regiments is stationed at Yokohama, this ground could not be resumed for the purpose for which it was originally intended. I therefore recommend that after the new offices are built, that during the time the Legation continues at Yokohama, residences should be hired for the consul, vice-consul, and interpreter, and should the Legation be removed, the houses to be vacated by the secretary of Legation, and the assistants would become available for those officers; or if the garrison were removed, in that case also the houses might be given up to the Japanese Government, who, on account of

proposal, which is supported by the French, United States, and Dutch representatives, and by the Japanese Government, the hill lot would no longer be needed, as there would be room on the Bund lot for the consul's residence and offices, with quarters for two assistants over the offices, as proposed by Major Crossman, and residences for the vice-consul and interpreter could be constructed on the new lot. Both Mr. Mayburgh and Major Crossman urge as an objection to the Hill lot its distance from the offices to be erected on the Bund lot, but no better site was obtainable at the time when Major Crossman wrote. The formation of the ground containing the new lot has been decided on only since the fire of November, and is already nearly completed. It is distant only seven minutes walk from the Bund lot, or a third of the distance which separates the latter from the Hill lot, and is most agreeably situated, with a south-western aspect. If Her Majesty's Government should determine on accepting the new lot in place of the Hill lot, Sir H. Parkes would then recommend that the Admiralty should have the opportunity of choosing between the latter site, which overlooks the Naval yard, and the lot that has been recently selected for the Naval Hospital.

In the event of the Legation being removed from Yokohama, Sir H. Parkes concurs with Major Crossman that the three houses now in course of construction for the Secretary of Legation and members of the staff would form suitable quarters for the consul, vice-consul and interpreter until permanent residences are erected for these officers by Her Majesty's Government. Those buildings will contain superior accommodation to that of the three houses at present rented for the use of the said three consular officers at a total sum of \$ 4,620 per annum, and will also be much cheaper, as the rent would probably not exceed \$3,000 per annum.

As regards Mr. Dohmen's quarters, it may not be out of place to mention that though that officer is at present chiefly occupied with assistant's duties, his position in the service is that of a Dutch interpreter, and as an interpreter, he appears entitled by the rules of the service to married accommodation.

*Major Crossman's Report.**Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.*

their having been designed with that probable contingency in view, would have no difficulty in letting them to private individuals, and new residences erected on the ground now occupied by the camp; but this will be a matter for further consideration.

Nagasaki.—The accommodation to be provided at this port is to be for a consul, interpreter, and two assistants. At present, however, only one assistant is stationed there, and this establishment, if not diminished, being all that can, most probably will be required there for many years to come, I would recommend that quarters to that extent be only provided at present. The consul's residence and offices are at present provided in a house rented for \$1,800, or 382 *l.* 10 *s.* a year, the interpreter and assistant in houses of which the rental is \$600 a year each.

The total rental therefore is 637 *l.* 10 *s.* Messrs. Dent & Co., the owners of the house first mentioned, wished to dispose of their property, but on examination I found that I could not recommend Her Majesty's Government to purchase the house.

A copy of the letter which I addressed to Sir Harry Parkes on the subject is enclosed.

Prisoners are at present put in the Japanese gaol, a most inconvenient arrangement.

An excellent site has been reserved for consular purposes in about the best and the most convenient part of the foreign concession, and on this I propose that the whole establishment should be placed.

Arrangements have been made so that we can retain the buildings at present occupied until the new ones are completed. The houses and cost of each will be:—

1. Consul's residence ;
2. Interpreters ;
3. Offices and quarters for one assistant ;
4. Gaol and constables' quarters ;
5. Levelling, roads, &c. ;

Amounting in all to, say, \$25,000.

But this estimate may have to be modified after the plans have been properly drawn out, which I have not yet had time to do.

IV. CONSULAR BUILDINGS.

Nagasaki.—Without endorsing Major Crossman's opinions as to what may be needed at Nagasaki many years hence, I concur with him that quarters for a consul, interpreter, and one assistant are all that are at present required, and that the three houses, with gaol and offices, should be built on the excellent site chosen for this purpose. Sir H. Parkes only trusts that the necessary buildings may be soon commenced, and, whether commenced or not, provision should at once be made for payment of the ground rent, as the Japanese Government will probably object to continue to losing the rent on ground which they could long ago have disposed of to other occupants.

V.—CONSULAR BUILDINGS.

Hakodate.—The estimates provide for a consul, interpreter, and assistant at this port; at present, however, there is only a consul, with an assistant; a staff more than sufficient for the duties of the place.

The consulate offices and houses occupied by the officers are rented from private individuals for 210 *l.* a year.

A very good site has been reserved for consular purposes, which, on my arrival, I found had been levelled and prepared for the

Hakodate.—In the case of this port, the Japanese Government have consented to rebuild the consulate that was burned down, and to let it at a rental of 10 per cent. upon the outlay, the plans to be furnished by ourselves, and the total outlay not to exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.)

It is 18 months since this arrangement was made by Sir H. Parkes, but the plans have not yet been supplied. It is very desirable that these should be furnished, and the

*Major Crossman's Report.**Remarks by Sir H. Parkes.*

the erection of the necessary buildings. In accordance with instructions contained in Sir Harry Parkes' letter of 2nd May 1866, a copy of which, with its enclosures, was forwarded to me in your Despatch of 4th July 1866. Mr. Consul Gower had prepared plans for the consul's residence and offices, which were to be built by the Japanese Government, on the terms referred to in that letter, viz., that they were to receive 10 per cent. on the actual cost of the buildings as annual rent, besides a ground-rent of \$ 12 per hundred tsubos (36 feet superficial), or nearly 31½. per acre.

These buildings, however, as planned by the consul, I considered far too large and too expensive for a place like Hakodate, where the foreign trade is little or nothing, and I did not think it would be fair to call upon the Japanese Government to put up houses of that character.

I propose that the consul should have a residence constructed on the same plan as that proposed at Nagasaki; that two rooms should be provided for an assistant, and two rooms for offices in an adjacent small building.

A gaol with four cells, and constables' quarters, will also have to be provided. The cost of these services to the Japanese Government I estimate at, for—

Consul's residence,
Assistants' quarters and offices,
Gaol and constables' room,
Outhouses,

\$ 20,000. (This is the full amount the Japanese will expend, and the price of building is very high at Hakodate).

The annual rent paid will be :—

For land	-	£. 63	15	-
For houses	-	-	425	-

Total	-	-	£. 488	15	-
-------	---	---	--------	----	---

Considering the position of the site, and the frequency of the fires in Hakodate, I think that it is better that these houses should be built by the Japanese Government.

Sir Harry Parkes mentioned to me, that he considered it would be advisable to provide extra accommodation at this port, so that it might be used as a sanatorium, to which any of the diplomatic or consular officers might be sent, in case they became ill at any of the other ports.

As, however, I cannot see the necessity of this, more especially as Japan generally is such a healthy country, I refer the matter for the decision of Her Majesty's Government.

As

the building proceeded with, as the want of a weather-proof house is severely felt in a climate where snow lies on the ground for five months of the year. The present temporary quarters are in a dilapidated state, and during the winter now terminating, the snow beat continually into several of the rooms, and rendered them untenable.

Payment of the ground-rent, as already urged in the case of the Nagasaki ground, should not be longer delayed, and is already being claimed by the Japanese Government. The rate at Hakodate is thirteen dollars (\$ 13) per hundred tsubos, and not twelve dollars (\$ 12), as mentioned by Major Crossman. Sir H. Parkes would suggest, that accommodation for two assistants, instead of one, should be constructed at Hakodate, provided that this can be done at little extra expense, and without exceeding the total outlay agreed on of \$ 20,000. By a slight enlargement of the second building proposed by Major Crossman, rooms suitable for two assistants might be placed over the consulate office. It is probable that one assistant will be sufficient for the duties of this consulate, but it is desirable, in Sir H. Parkes' opinion, to have accommodation at this port for any invalid officer it may be found desirable to send there, whose services and time might be saved to the Government, and an expensive voyage home to himself, by the change of air and scene that this port would afford. Major Crossman is of opinion that, because Japan is generally a healthy country, this precaution is unnecessary; but I believe that the remedy now mentioned is occasionally prescribed with advantage in England, and the two deaths which have recently occurred in this Legation in the course of less than a twelve-month, have satisfied Sir H. Parkes that a timely change of air and scene may prove as beneficial to the health of individuals in Japan as it is found to be in other countries. It may be added, that the climate of Nagasaki, which is in nearly the same latitude as Shanghai, is by no means a bracing one during a considerable portion of the year, and at Hiogo and Osaka the summers are said to be very warm.

Sir H. Parkes would add, that the Japanese Government would willingly be relieved of their engagement to rebuild the Hakodate consulate, in case Her Majesty's Government would undertake this themselves. Sir H. Parkes is not aware that there is greater danger of fire in Hakodate than elsewhere; and as the isolation of the site would protect the proposed consulate from fire from surrounding buildings, its security would depend upon the nature of its construction, and the care of its inmates.

Major Crossman's Report.

As regards the means for enabling the judges when travelling assize to hold their courts, I conceive that no special arrangement is necessary, the offices proposed to be constructed for consular purposes will be amply sufficient for judicial requirements.

They will be used for the latter purpose during a very few days in the year, and during that time arrangements can easily be made for carrying on the consular business without interruption.

Concerning the amount of accommodation required for the reception of official personages of high rank who from time to time may visit Japan :

These visits to Nagasaki and Hakodate must be so few and far between that I do not consider it necessary to provide any extra rooms specially for that purpose at those ports, particularly as unless the consuls are men with large families (and none of them at present in Japan happen to be married men), the accommodation I propose should be given to them will be quite sufficient to enable them to receive guests.

It is, however, for the consideration of their Lordships, whether these gentlemen are not entitled to some allowance in case they are allowed to receive official guests. At Yokohama the case is somewhat different ; foreign and other personages of high rank are sure to go to that port with the view of visiting Yedo, and the British Minister is in many instances called upon to entertain and provide accommodation for them.

The residence for the Minister, now building, though covering a great space, does not provide much spare room. Sir Edmund Hornby, too, states that he will probably live at Yokohama for three months in the year, and proposed that a small four-roomed cottage should be put up for his accommodation and that of any other official personages whom the Minister might consider as entitled to house-room at the public expense.

When Sir Harry Parkes first mentioned this to me I was inclined to think that it was advisable to build such a house, for which a very eligible site can be obtained close to the new Legation.

On further consideration, however, I cannot recommend that the extra expense of constructing this building should be incurred ; it would be unoccupied during the greater portion of the year, and unoccupied buildings always require repairs, and nowhere more than in China and Japan. It might certainly be made available for student interpreters, but it would be hard to turn these gentlemen out and send them to an hotel whenever any personage of rank visits the port.

It must be borne in mind also, that the Legation may leave Yokohama shortly ; and, when it does leave, there will be buildings at the disposal of Her Majesty's Government which will afford room, and to spare, for any number of official personages who may arrive.

There is an hotel in the place, certainly not of the first class, but I understand very fair for this part of the world.

I enclose a summary showing generally the sum required for buildings during next year, by which it will be seen that at least 5,000 *l.* will be required for rent, and 10,000 *l.* (for the cost of repairs must be added to the 8,000 *l.* estimates) for new buildings.

I hope that it will be possible to make arrangements for a reduction in this large sum, but under existing circumstances it will be well to provide for the full amount in the estimates of 1867-68.

After the Legation at Yokohama is completed, and the consulates at Nagasaki and Hakodate, the saving in rent to Her Majesty's Government will amount to about 2,000 *l.* per annum.

I have sent a copy of this report to Sir Harry Parkes, and an extract from it, relating to judicial buildings and accommodation of officials, to Sir Edmund Hornby.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Crossman.*

The Secretary to the Treasury.

Enclosure in No. 3.

SUMMARY.

CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC BUILDINGS, JAPAN.

		Rent.		Building.		
		£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.
Yedo	- -	Rent proposed to be paid to Japanese Government, on condition that buildings are kept in repair by them.				
		250	- -			
Yokohama	- -	Minister's House - - - -	722 10 -	Consular Offices - - -	2,762 5 -	
		Secretary of Legation - - - -	552 10 -			
		Japanese Secretary - - - -	204 - -			
		Chancery and Assistant, Quarters -	892 10 -			
		Consular Offices - - - -	185 16 3½			
		Consul's Residence - - - -	471 15 -			
		Vice Consul's Residence - - - -	255 - -			
		Assistant, late Dutch Interpreter -	280 10 -			
		Interpreters - - - -	255 - -			
		Three Student Interpreters - - -	382 10 -			
Nagasaki	- -	Consular Residence, with Offices -	382 10 -	Consular Establishment complete, if retained at present strength - - -	5,312 10 -	
		Interpreter - - - -	127 10 -			
		Assistant - - - -	127 10 -			
Hakodadi	- -	Consul's Residence, and other Quarters - - - -	210 - -			
		TOTAL Rent per Annum - - £.	5,299 11 3½	- - - -	8,074 15 -	

— No. 4. —

COPY of TREASURY MINUTE, dated 24th January 1867.

TRANSMIT this report, with enclosure, to Mr. Hammond, and request that, in laying it before Lord Stanley, he will state that Major Crossman's proceedings in Japan appear to my Lords to have been conducted with judgment and discretion, and that they consider that the recommendations which he has made in regard to that branch of his mission may be adopted.

Before sending a reply, my Lords would be glad to learn whether Lord Stanley concurs in this opinion, and to be favoured with his observations upon any particular parts of the report which may call for remark.

In the meantime, my Lords will cause provision to be made in the Estimates for 1867-68, for the sum mentioned in the report, viz., 5,000 *l.* for rent, and 10,000 *l.* for new buildings and repairs.

Request the return of the report, of which Major Crossman will send a duplicate for the Foreign Office.

— No. 5. —

Mr. E. Hammond to the Secretary to the Treasury.

Sir, Foreign Office, 24 January 1867.

I HAVE laid before Lord Stanley your letter of to-day's date, enclosing a report by Major Crossman on the subject of diplomatic and consular buildings in Japan, and I am directed by his Lordship to request that you will inform the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that he concurs in the proposed arrangements as stated in your letter.

I am, &c.

(signed) E. Hammond.

The Secretary to the Treasury.

P.S.—Major Crossman's report is returned herewith.

— No. 6. —

COPY OF TREASURY MINUTE, dated 26th January 1867.

WRITE to Major Crossman in acknowledgment of his report of the 24th November last, and convey to him their Lordship's approval of his proceedings as detailed therein, with reference to the buildings required for the diplomatic and consular services in Japan.

State that my Lords will cause provision to be made in the Estimates to be laid before Parliament during the ensuing Session for the sums mentioned in his report, viz., 5,000 *l.* for rent, and 10,000 *l.* for building and repairs.

— No. 7. —

Major Crossman to the Secretary to the Treasury.

Sir,

Shanghai, 18 July 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that I have returned to Shanghai after visiting Peking and all the ports of China, with the exception of Canton, with Her Majesty's Minister, and have to report as follows :—

PEKING.

In my letter of the 14th June last I reported that the amount expended on the Legation buildings had been much greater than I anticipated.

In addition to those services, the cost of which I have already included in my accounts, I found that the works, as enumerated in the Enclosure No. 1, were necessary and advisable.

Some of these are small, being only casual and current repairs, which require no remark.

As regards the larger items, No. 1 is for building a boundary wall round a narrow strip of ground which I found had been purchased last year by the Minister as a site for his private stables.

This plot of land I believe cost about \$200; the cost of the wall will be about \$300, so that the expense of this acquisition will be about 100 *l.*

The ground is of such an inconvenient shape, being only 185 feet $\times$ 26 feet, that it rendered it necessary to construct the buildings in such a way as to increase the expense; yet, though I cannot say that room could not have been found for Sir Rutherford Alcock's stables in some other part of the ground, still they would not have been so conveniently placed, and the whole space is already so very much filled up that it is perhaps as well that the purchase was made.

Item No. 8 is for flooring the corridor round the Minister's residence; this amounts to nearly \$1,100; but the corridor is long, and wood is expensive, and I consider it quite necessary for the health and comfort of the inmates in winter.

The whole expense on the Minister's residence will amount to \$3,680; but as it will then be put in a proper state of repair it is to be hoped that Her Majesty's Government will not be asked for any more money for many years to come.

Item No. 7 may require some remark, as it is for removing green tiles from one part of the building to another.

The construction of the new corridor, however, had been carried out (as reported by me in my letter of the 22nd July 1866) so inartistically that I thought it better to expend a few dollars in improving its external appearance, and as the walls on three sides of the square were faced for some distance up with green porcelain tiles, which in China are allowed only in Imperial palaces, while the external wall of the corridor was only plastered, I ordered a number of green tiles which were in the rear of the building, in the kitchens and out of sight, to be removed and placed on that wall.

The works at the Chancery and other offices call for no remark, as they amount in all to only \$200.

The adaptation of the large open hall for this purpose has been very successful, the rooms being lofty, light, and well ventilated.

A fire-proof strong room was very much required, which will be put up at once.

Five

Enclosure No. 1.

See Plan B.

A. on Plan.

H. on Plan.

Five additional student interpreters were on the way out from England, and there being only quarters for eight (all at the time occupied) it was absolutely necessary to provide accommodation for the new comers; and Sir Rutherford Alcock informs me there will always be this number (*viz.*, 13) at Peking.

There are two houses close to the students' quarters, one occupied by the accountant, Mr. Murray, and part of the other by Mr. Brown, assistant Chinese secretary, the rest being used as students' library and mess-room.

I proposed that these houses should be transformed into quarters for the new students, and that Mr. Murray and Mr. Brown should occupy houses in the square where the secretaries live, and that a new library and mess-room for the students should be built close to their quarters.

With this the Minister agreed, and the work has been commenced.

The student interpreters' mess-room, with the three blocks of buildings constituting their quarters, will form a separate square in the Legation grounds.

This will be the most expensive of all the items, as I do not estimate the cost at less than \$ 6,000; but I hope their Lordships will agree in considering that, under the circumstances, it could not have been deferred.

The house of the Secretary of Legation (Mr. Wade having left) is occupied by a married doctor, attached to the Legation, who arrived during my stay in Peking; certain repairs were necessary before the house could be re-occupied; these, as per items 25, 26, 27, and 28, amounting to \$ 1,200 dollars, I had carried out.

Item No. 29 provides for the removal of the native Chinese teachers' rooms from a position where they were a great nuisance to one more retired.

The secretaries' quarters form two sides of a square, two quarters being on the one side and one on the other, the other two sides being a gymnasium and a mess-room; one of the quarters being vacant, has been given to Mr. Brown, the assistant Chinese secretary.

The gymnasium has been converted into quarters for Mr. Murray, and will give that gentleman a fair sized bed-room, sitting-room, and bath-room, the same amount of accommodation which the other secretaries have.

I found the mess-room, kitchen, and offices attached, in a very bad state of repair, externally and internally; these I thought best to put in thorough good order at once, making at the same time certain small alterations, to make the arrangements more perfect.

The alteration and repairs which are being carried out on these houses will, I hope, suffice for a long time.

Their cost is estimated at \$ 1,150.

Items 36 and 37 refer to the new stables I have already reported on.

The building of these could have no longer been delayed, particularly as new horses were on their way from India.

The purchase of the Temple, which was effected last year, placed at our disposal a piece of ground which has come in very well as a site for the new stables; had it not been procured it would have been difficult to have built them without interfering much with the comfort of some of the residents; now they are placed at the extreme south-west corner of the grounds, round a good stable-yard, in which yard also is a cottage for the constable in charge, rooms for the Chinese grooms, stores for forage, and harness-rooms.

Besides the old stables which have been pulled down, other useless out-houses and large dividing walls, which interfered with a free current of air through the grounds, and cut up the whole place very much, have been removed.

By the removal of these walls a large number of good bricks have been obtained, which has not only paid the cost of demolition but has materially lessened the expense of some of the items.

Items 38 to 42 inclusive, as well as 48, will not be carried out this year.

The Minister informs me that the accountant and Chinese secretary ought to be furnished with houses for families.

Neither are married men at present; whether they have any intention of becoming so I do not know.

The doctor also must have a new house built, as he is only occupying, as a temporary measure, that of the Secretary of Legation.

It will be difficult to find space for these new houses, as the Legation ground, large as it is, is already so covered with buildings that little space is left for exercise and recreation.

C. on Plan.

D. on Plan.

E. on Plan.

Q. on Plan.

F. on Plan.

G. on Plan.

O. on Plan.

Q. on Plan.

R'' and R''.

R.

R'.

R''.

R.

R'.

T.

S. and S' on Plan

S. and S' on Plan

See Note on Plan.

L. on Plan.

To find space at all for them, the building at present occupied as a church must come down; but this does not much matter, as the walls are in a very bad condition, and they would have to be renewed in a short time; besides, there is a large amount of valuable timber in it, which would be available for new houses.

K. on Plan.

There is a large house opposite to the Chinese secretaries' quarters, used partly as a theatre and partly as a lumber-room, well and solidly built, which can be converted into a good church by the addition of an external porch, removing the flooring of the upper storey so as to throw it open to the roof, and by the addition of some wood work and ornament, to give it a somewhat ecclesiastical appearance.

I conceive that if even a proper site could be found, which I much doubt, if all the new buildings referred to are put up, that it would be unnecessary to build a church in the Legation grounds so long as any existing and suitable building can, at little expense, be made available for it.

N. on Plan.

W. on Plan.

Z. on Plan.

X. on Plan.

The other matters deferred are, a new gate-house (the present having a very indifferent appearance, and being small and confined), a reading-room at the north end of the bowling-alley, in lieu of the present room now used for that purpose, and which will be converted into a vestry for the new chapel. Visitors' stables, or rather a covered shed near the entrance, which ought to harmonize somewhat with the large entrance-hall opposite, in which the horses of visitors may be placed out of the sun or rain, and a fives-court.

These deferred items, viz., Nos. 38, 39, 40, 41, and 42, although none of them actual necessities, will add so much to the comfort of the occupants and to the appearance of the Legation generally, that I strongly recommend to the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government that a sum not exceeding 750 *l.* be spent upon them.

It is further for the consideration of their Lordships whether it will be necessary to provide next year, or at some other future time, for the erection of three more houses for the accommodation of the families of the doctor, accountant, and assistant Chinese secretary.

It is difficult to know what these houses will cost, but not a less sum than 10,000 *l.*, the expense of transport to Peking being so very great.

The total expenditure at Peking would, as seen per enclosed Return, amount to \$23,150=4,919 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.*, during the year 1867-8; but, as the sum voted by Parliament will not permit of so large an expenditure, I have addressed a letter to Sir Rutherford Alcock, a copy of which is enclosed, requesting him to make arrangements for deferring or not completing such other items as he may deem advisable; so that the total expenditure on the Legation during the year may not exceed \$15,000.

TIENTSIN.

While at this port I received the telegram authorizing me to purchase Messrs. Dent & Co.'s property for \$46,000, but too late to allow the purchase to be completed before the 31st March.

I got \$1,000 taken off this sum on account of the inferior nature of some of the woodwork, which had deteriorated much since my former inspection, so that the sum actually paid was \$45,000, or 9,562 *l.* 10 *s.*

Although had we waited longer the property might probably have been bought cheaper, as the firm being now bankrupt it would have come into the market, still, at the time the money was paid, every one supposed it was but under a temporary difficulty that the firm was suffering; and on the whole I think the Government got good value for their money.

I made arrangements for converting the godowns into quarters for the interpreter, assistant, and offices; this will, I trust, be finished by the 1st November, so that the building now rented, for which we give the enormous sum of 500 *l.* per annum, will be given up.

I have entered into a contract for the conversion of these godowns for the sum of \$5,700, exclusive of grates, hinges, bolts, &c.; these I will send from Shanghai, and I trust that the whole cost will not exceed the sum authorized.

The gaol still requires to be built, but this must be deferred till another year.

I arranged

I arranged that the work should be superintended by a German architect, who had come out to build houses for a firm, but the firm becoming bankrupt he was thrown on his own resources; he had good testimonials; the work he superintended in Tientsin was good, so that, although the lowest terms I could get him to accept were \$150 a month, I thought it best to engage him at that rate for four months, knowing that the Chinese contractors, left to themselves without European superintendence, would scamp the work in every way, and that his salary would be saved to the Government in the long run by the superior quality of the work.

I enclose copy of contract, and list of repairs, that I have ordered to be executed in Tientsin.

It will be of no use disposing of the other ground belonging to Government at the present time, as it is not likely, in the present state of commercial affairs, it would realise anything like a fair value; and from what I have heard I was perfectly correct in what I said in my former report, that great objections would have been raised by the land-renters towards contributing their share of the expense of bunding the Government lot, in case it had been determined to build the consulate upon it.

For some time there has been stationed one assistant only besides the consul, but as the Minister told me it would be necessary to have another, I have made arrangements to provide accommodation for a married interpreter and an assistant.

TAKU.

At this port, which is a vice-consulate under Tientsin, the vice-consul pointed out to me, on my former visit, some godowns belonging to Messrs. Dent & Co., which might be adapted to the requirements of the consulate; these buildings I then inspected, but I thought the situation so bleak that I delayed doing anything in the matter until the Minister had an opportunity of seeing them himself.

I was not aware at the time of any site on which the consulate could be built, but on visiting the place with Sir Rutherford Alcock, I found a site could be obtained in a much more convenient situation; and as he strongly objected to the position of Messrs. Dent & Co.'s property, I requested him to be so good as to direct the consul to make inquiries as to the cost of obtaining and raising land.

Enclosed correspondence will show that the probable cost will be about \$2,800; this sum I propose to expend this year, in order to be ready to build the consulate next year, and I would recommend that the same accommodation should be provided here as at Whampoa, viz., a house for a vice-consul, office, gaol, and constables' quarters; the cost of this would probably amount to \$20,000 (4,250 £).

At present the vice-consul is residing in a Chinese house. I expended the sum of \$180, (38 £ 5 s.) to make it somewhat more habitable, and had the owner been disposed to sell, I should have recommended its purchase; this, however, he will not do, and so it is necessary to build.

NEW-CHEANG.

At this port, where the foreign community consists of one or two British merchants, a storekeeper (a British subject), a doctor paid by Her Majesty's Government, a few pilots and tide-waiters, and an American firm, the consul, Mr. Meadows, is living in a Chinese temple, not at all adapted for the residence of a family, requiring, as it does, a walk in the open air to go from one bedroom to another, from one sitting-room to another, and from each bedroom to each sitting-room.

Three rooms were built a few years ago for the accommodation of the assistants, consisting of two bedrooms and a sitting-room; these I found in very bad repair, and ordered them to be put to-rights, as two assistants were on their way to be stationed at the port.

The expense of this, however, I do not expect will amount to more than \$300.

Mr. Meadows had prepared an elaborate plan for a new consulate, of which I can only say that it was not a plan which I could recommend Her Majesty's

Government to adopt; the site, too, does not appear to me to have been judiciously chosen, as it is at the extreme end of the ground marked off for a foreign settlement, instead of being in the centre of it, where it appears to me a consulate ought to be placed.

A house belonging to an English firm lately bankrupt was offered for sale; I inspected this with the Minister.

I consider the house might be made available, and it could be now procured for a small sum; neither the Minister nor the consul, however, seemed to think it suitable; so that, if even the establishment at the port be kept up, I cannot recommend its purchase.

As, however, the Minister considered the temple would do for temporary purposes, I propose that no buildings be erected at New-cheang until further instructions are received from home.

CHEFOO.

Of this port I have nothing more to say than what was contained in my report of 7th March, T₁₇².

The assistants' quarters cannot be proceeded with this year.

The Minister proposed to form part of the offices into assistants' quarters, and retain one only as an office; this would of course somewhat lessen expense, but I fear the result would be anything but satisfactory.

I therefore still recommend that a new assistants' quarters should be built.

SHANGHAI.

My letters of 15th February T₁₈³, 8th March T₁₉², and 17th June T₁₉², contain all that I can say concerning buildings required for this port.

I have been since then obliged to expend about \$ 280 on the second vice-consul's house, lately occupied by Mr. Alabaster, and this sum was actually necessary to render it fit for a lady to go into.

As the house is one which must eventually be pulled down, nothing more will be expended on it, except casual repairs.

The other house recommended to be removed, lately occupied by the assistants, was found so unbearable in summer that they were obliged to vacate it, and a house has been hired for them at \$ 2,040 (433 l. 10 s.) per annum, which will give accommodation for four juniors.

I enclose copy of correspondence which passed between Mr. Winchester and myself on this subject.

I have been endeavouring to find a site for a new gaol, but up to the present time have been unsuccessful; people do not seem inclined to part with any of their land; holding on, I suppose, in the hope of better times.

I will employ an agent, and if I can succeed in obtaining a site on reasonable terms, I shall purchase immediately.

With the sum granted for buildings in China, it will be impossible to do more this year in Shanghai.

CHINKEANG.

The one European house referred to in my former Report was vacant, so we were enabled to procure it a rental of \$ 40 a month as quarters for the assistant, and so remove him from the unhealthy rooms he was occupying near the Chinese temple.

As regards the latter building, a new consul has been appointed to the port, and of course fresh alterations have been submitted to me; and although loth to expend any public money upon such a wretched place, I could not but say that all he asked for was reasonable and proper. I have therefore directed a sum of \$ 150 to be expended upon it, as he will be obliged to live in it for some time to come.

As the Minister expressed his opinion that the temple and the hired building would be sufficient for the present, it is not proposed to spend any more money in Chinkeang on buildings this year.

KIU KIANG.

Large though the house is, I could not see the way to divide it so as to give accommodation for the assistant also, so the small house adjoining has been rented at \$ 65 per month.

I fear

Enclosure No. 4.

Enclosure No. 5.

I fear there will not be sufficient money to build a gaol there this year, nor does it seem to me urgently required, as there are two rooms now used for lock-ups, which seem to me to meet at present the requirements of the place.

An assistant's house may be built at the back of the Government lot.

HANKOW.

I found on my arrival that the bund had been completed, and on the whole in a satisfactory manner; some little sinking had occurred, but not more than might have been expected from such a work; money, however, had been kept back from the contractor to provide against this contingency, and he will be obliged to make it good when the water falls.

From the washing away of the bank below the bund, it will be probably necessary to extend it a little further back at the extreme end, but this cannot be done until the winter, when the water is at its lowest.

I trust the expenditure will not be great.

The house occupied by the two assistants had been vacated by them, and another house hired, at a rental of \$131 a month (*see* 15,162/67), which will accommodate a married interpreter and two assistants, who are to be stationed at this port.

Nothing will be expended on new buildings this year.

NINGPO.

I reported on this port fully in my letter of 3rd February, T 9, but since that time I have made a further examination of Messrs. Dent & Co.'s property, and I am inclined to think that means could be adopted to prevent the water, except at extraordinary high floods, from overflowing the compound.

I have not yet had time to work out the project, but if it can be done, as the estate is in Bankruptcy, and will probably be in the market, it will most likely be obtainable at a reasonable rate, and if so it would be advisable to purchase.

FOOCHOW.

Sir Rutherford Alcock informs me that there are important political considerations, which doubtless he will explain to the Foreign Office, which render it necessary that the temple at Woo-si-shaw should be retained, and as I found that the consul was living there occasionally, I authorised an expenditure of \$264 for repairs.

I forward a copy of the letter from him on the subject, and were it not that Woo-si-shaw is at a distance of upwards of three miles from the foreign settlement, and the road to it is through one of the filthiest suburbs in China, it would have been better to have kept it as the residence for the consul, and not built the new house.

But it would be impossible for him, when living there, to transact regularly the business connected with shipping and mercantile affairs.

The house authorised by you in your letter of 27th February 3362/67, will be proceeded with immediately, and as no work of importance can be carried out this year in Shanghai, I have resolved to send Mr. Boyce to superintend the work at Foochow and other adjacent southern ports.

With reference to a remark in your letter 3362/67, of 27th February, that on the completion of the gaol at the Pagoda, the premises used as a lock-up at Foochow-foo may be given up, I have to state that the place formerly hired for that purpose has been given up for some time, two lock-up strong rooms having been formed in the basement of the consular offices.

At the Pagoda anchorage, in accordance with the instructions contained in your letter 3802/67, of 7th March, I examined, with Sir Rutherford Alcock, a house which I understand may be purchased for about \$4,000; this house is in a fair state of repair; and, with a little alteration, will make an excellent residence for the vice-consul.

The consul, too, has been requested to make inquiries as to the probability of obtaining possession of a piece of ground adjoining (formerly used as a Chinese military station) as a site for a gaol, constables' quarters, and assistant's residence.

AMOY.

Inquiries were made as to whether a new site cannot be obtained for an office in lieu of the building now used, and which only partly belongs to the Government.

I examined some premises which might be bought, but they are a great deal too extensive.

I also examined the site on which the offices once stood, and which were given up on the occasion of those transfers of land and houses between Mr. Consul Pedder and Messrs. Tait & Co., referred to in my former Report.

The site would do very well, but I fear a large sum will now be asked for it.

Our visit was too short to allow of further inquiries being made, but the consul has been directed to report further on the matter.

I much fear that the assistants' house will have to come down; it is quite uninhabitable, and the cost of repairing it will probably be nearly as much as that of building a new house.

I have made arrangements, in which the Minister concurs, for cutting off two rooms in the large house occupied by the consul, for the use of an assistant, and by giving an additional staircase and a small kitchen and out-offices, the comfort of the consul's family will not be interfered with.

The gaol is, as formerly reported, in a very bad state, and quite unfit for the number of men who happened to be in at the time of my late visit; but with reference to this, it appeared to me that the crowded state of the gaol arose from its being a receptacle not only for British prisoners but for offenders of all nationalities; and I understood the consul to say that the constable received pay from the consuls of other Powers for looking after them.

The Minister was of opinion, and I entirely agreed with him, that as there was a suitable place to be hired which had formerly been used as a prison by the American consul, that the men should be removed at once and placed there.

Before commencing a new gaol on the site of the present, I think it would be very desirable to await the result of the inquiries about ground for new offices on the Amoy side of the river.

The gaol at present is but a few yards from the door of the consul's residence, and the space is so limited that it will be almost impossible to erect a building with proper yard and exercising ground, which is almost an absolute necessity in this climate.

Sir Rutherford Alcock also deems it advisable that one of the consular officers should reside near the office; this, too, would appear very desirable; so that if ground can be obtained on the Amoy side, the consul and assistant would live in the large house at Koo-lang-soo, the interpreter's residence, offices, gaol, and constable's quarters would be at Amoy, while the present assistant's house at Koo-lang-soo, which I have before stated was uninhabitable, might be pulled down, and the materials sold for what they may fetch.

The enclosed tracing from an Admiralty chart shows the position of the various buildings; the inconvenience of having the gaol at such a distance, and separated by a river from the court-room, is apparent, and placing it at Amoy will probably save the present expense of boats for assistants and constables.

Mr. Consul Swinhoe, when the plan was proposed, stated that it was absolutely necessary that the constables should live close to the consul; but I must say that I could not understand his reasoning, and it appears to me that the proper place for the constable is near the prisoners and the public offices when another consular officer is at the same place.

SWATOW.

This place was fully reported upon in my letter T $\frac{17}{72}$ of 7th March. Since my last visit the repairs have been completed, and, on the whole, satisfactorily.

The jetty is in a much worse state; landing at low water is almost impossible.

I have requested a contractor to give me an estimate for putting it in proper order, so as to be ready to commence work on receipt of authority.

FORMOSA.

At Tamsuy the consul was living in a Chinese house, in the middle of the Chinese town, where he had lived five years, in a house I wonder any Englishman could have occupied for a week.

He is now going home, and another officer has relieved him, who objects, and I am not surprised at it, to occupy the old premises.

No house can be hired, as the number of foreign houses and foreign residents is about the same as at Chinkeang.

The minister informs me, that accommodation will have to be provided for the Consul, and assistant, besides offices, gaol, and constables' quarters.

He also stated, that it was intended to establish a consular office at the Port of Keylung, on the north-east end of the island, about 30 miles from Tamsuy, where, as yet, there are no foreign residents whatever, but where ships go to load coal.

We went across by land (the ships going round to meet us), and the day was so hot, and the time so short, that I was not able to look out for any site.

Should it be deemed desirable by Her Majesty's Government to put up any buildings at this place, Mr. Boyce, who will be obliged to go to Tamsuy to put up some building there, will be enabled to select suitable ground.

At Tamsuy, where it is absolutely necessary that something should be done, I can only, with the funds at present at my disposal, put up a small house available for an assistant.

Taiwan too we did not visit, as the acting consul was at Takou, where an arrangement has been made to rent from a mercantile firm premises at \$2,400 per annum for five years certain, with the option of purchase at any time for the sum of \$16,000.

This arrangement, I cannot help thinking, was a most injudicious one.

The rent is exorbitant, the purchase money far too great, and the house itself is not very suitable, as the upper rooms only can be made available for a dwelling house.

The other side of the harbour would have been more convenient than the one on which this house is situated, and on that side it would have been possible to obtain, for one-third of the sum, a piece of land belonging to another firm giving up business.

The firm from whom the house occupied by the consul is rented has become bankrupt within the last few weeks, and the property will have to be sold.

The only thing which can possibly give it any value whatever is the lease which has been entered into by the British Government.

It will probably be sold for \$10,000 if it were put up to public auction, the Government might certainly become bidders, but it would appear doubtful how far, legally or morally, we should be justified in giving a less sum than agreed upon for the next four years.

It would be almost better to continue to rent the house on the present terms, as I cannot recommend its purchase; and, in the meantime, to look out for a better and more suitable place.

A site has been reserved for a consulate, but far removed from the quarter where the small business is carried on.

Great unnecessary expense has been incurred in walling this in, and maintaining a watchman to look after it.

The watchman, however, the Minister ordered to be discharged.

I enclose copies of letters which I have received from Mr. Carroll concerning the above purchase.

CANTON AND WHAMPOA.

We did not visit these ports, but since my return to Shanghai I have received a letter, of which a copy is enclosed, by which it will be seen that further repairs, caused by tempestuous weather, are there required; these I will direct Mr. Boyce to report upon, and have carried out in the most economical manner.

I have obtained an estimate for the new gaol at Whampoa, amounting to \$6,000, so that with fittings not included in the contract, and the repair, &c. now required, the sum mentioned in my letter of the 22nd February T 14—63, viz., for Whampoa 1,800 £, will, I hope, not be exceeded.

The accompanying summary shows the amount which it would be advisable to spend this year; it amounts to 30,000 £, of which nearly 10,000 £. is for the purchase of the new consulate at Tientsing.

I have made a note of those services which might be postponed,—though I cannot recommend that course—if 10,000 £. extra can be granted from the Contingent Fund, or if by any means the sums paid for the Tientsing consulate could be included in last year's accounts.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Crossman.*

The Secretary to the
Treasury.

SUMMARY accompanying Major *Crossman's* Report to the Treasury (T. 32—109),
dated 18th July 1867.

PLACE.	DESCRIPTION OF WORK.	C O S T (consisting of actual Expenditure to 31st March 1867, added to an Estimate of the further Amount required).		
		£.	s.	d.
Pekin - - -	Legation - - - - -	17,390	10	7
Tientsin - - -	Purchase of Property - - - - -	9,562	10	-
	Conversion of Godowns into Offices, &c. -	2,115	-	-
	Consul's Residence, Repairs to Gaol, and Constables' Quarters - - - - -	1,700	-	-
Taku - - - -	Purchase of Land, and raising same - -	600	-	-
	Vice Consulate and Gaol - - - - -	4,250	-	-
	Repairs to hired Buildings - - - - -	38	5	-
Cheefoo - - -	Vice Consulate, Offices and Gaol, Repairs -	591	10	11
	Assistant's Quarters - - - - -	1,000	-	-
New-cheang - -	Consulate - - - - -	6,000	-	-
	Repairs - - - - -	65	-	-
Shanghai - - -	Converting Consulate into Court-house, Offices, &c. - - - - -	6,000	-	-
	New House for Consul - - - - -	7,500	-	-
	Ditto - „ Vice Consul - - - - -	12,000	-	-
	Ditto - „ Assistants - - - - -	7,500	-	-
	Ditto - „ Chief Judge - - - - -	6,500	-	-
	Ditto - „ Assistant Judge - - - - -	8,000	-	-
	Ditto - „ Assistants to the Supreme Court - - - - -	24,600	-	-
	Gaol, Constables' Quarters, &c. - - - -	233	8	11
	Repairs generally - - - - -			
Chinkiang - - -	New Consulate - - - - -	5,000	-	-
	Repairs generally - - - - -	449	3	4
Kiu Kiang - - -	Current Repairs to Consulate - - - -	300	-	-
	Assistants' Quarters - - - - -	1,500	-	-
	New Gaol and Constables' Quarters - -	1,500	-	-
Hankow - - -	Consulate, current Repairs ; Interpreter's and Assistant's Quarters ; Bund - -	4,885	1	-
Ningpo - - -	Old Consulate, current Repairs - - -	245	2	6
	New Consular Buildings - - - - -	12,750	-	-
Foochow - - -	Existing Buildings, Repairs generally -	150	-	-
	New Consul's Residence - - - - -	3,950	-	-
Pagoda Anchorage -	New Vice Consul's Residence, Offices, Gaols, &c. - - - - -	6,400	-	-
Amoy - - - -	Consulate, Alterations and Repairs - -	551	19	9
	New Offices, Interpreter's Residence, Gaol, &c. - - - - -	6,500	-	-
Swatow - - -	Repairs generally - - - - -	159	8	9
	New Jetty - - - - -	150	-	-
Canton - - -	Repairs generally - - - - -	215	14	11
Whampoa - - -	Repairs to Consulate, New Gaol, &c. - -	2,000	-	-
	Carried forward - - - £.	162,352	15	8

SUMMARY accompanying Major Crossman's Report to the Treasury, &c.—*continued*.

PLACE.	DESCRIPTION OF WORK.	COST (consisting of actual Expenditure to 31st March 1867, added to an Estimate of the further Amount required).		
		£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward - - -	162,352	15	8
	<i>Formosa.</i>			
Tamsuy	New House for Vice Consul - - -	4,000	-	-
	Ditto - „ Assistant - - -	2,000	-	-
	Gaol and Constable's Quarters - - -	2,000	-	-
Keylung	Assistant's Quarters - - -	1,000	-	-
Takow	New House for Consul - - -	—		
Taiwanfoo	Repairs - - -	50	-	-
		£.	171,402	15 8
Shanghai	Purchase of Wharf for Admiralty, not included in the above - - -	7,500	-	-
		£.	178,902	15 8

— No. 8. —

COPY of TREASURY MINUTE, dated 15th October 1867.

WRITE to Major Crossman that my Lords have had under their consideration his Report of 18th July, and the recommendation contained therein, with regard to the expenditure which will be required for the Embassy and Consulate Buildings in China.

It would appear from the Summary, &c., which accompanied the Report, that the expenditure which has been incurred under Major Crossman's authority, or which will be incurred during the current year, amounts in round numbers to 35,500 *l.*; and that the further expenditure is estimated by him at about 136,300 *l.*, inclusive of the new buildings proposed for the doctor, &c., at Pekin; or a total sum of 171,800 *l.* Of this amount Major Crossman will have already received (as per enclosed statement) the approval of this Board for a sum of 87,000 *l.*; of the remaining sum of 84,800 *l.*, 10,000 *l.* is the estimated cost of the new buildings at Pekin; 50,000 *l.* of the consulate and supreme court buildings at Shanghai; 6,000 *l.* of the consulate buildings at New-cheang; 8,000 *l.* of those at Tamsuy, &c., in Formosa; leaving a balance for general works of 10,800 *l.* at present unauthorised.

My Lords desire to express to Major Crossman their entire approval of his proceedings, and to authorise the further expenditure to the extent of 10,800 *l.* on account of works generally.

State with regard to the observations in the concluding paragraph of the Report, that the necessary transfer out of the vote of the sum required for the purchase of Messrs Dent's premises at Tientsin, having been made previous to the 31st March 1866, the sum of 9,600 *l.* will remain as a charge upon the Votes for 1866-7, thus reducing the expenditure (as per Summary enclosed in his Report) for the current year to 20,450 *l.*, or 450 *l.* only beyond the Vote for this year.

In view, however, of the representations made by Major Crossman, my Lords are prepared to sanction the expenditure of a further sum not exceeding 5,000 *l.* in the whole, over and above the sum of 20,000 *l.* taken for the current year, which they trust that he will find sufficient to carry on those works which may be most urgently required. The total sum, therefore, which will be at his disposal, for both China and Japan, for the current year 1867-8 may be considered

as 35,000 *l.*; the sum of 10,000 *l.*, drawn for on 16 July being included in this amount.

State that my Lords approve of the expenditure of 8,000 *l.*, on account of the buildings at Tamsay, &c., in Formosa.

As it will be necessary to consult the Secretary of State (Foreign Office) with regard to the buildings proposed at Pekin for the doctor, &c., estimated at 10,000 *l.*, and for the consulate at New-cheang, my Lords must defer for the present giving any directions on the subject.

My Lords trust to be in a position, either by the present or the next mail, to put Major Crossman in possession of their views with regard to the new buildings at Shanghai.

Let the officer in charge of the Treasury Chest in China be instructed to hold the sum of 5,000 *l.* at the disposal of Major Crossman, in addition to the sum of 20,000 *l.*, already approved for the current year.

Transmit the Duplicate Report from Major Crossman to the Foreign Office, with copy of the letter addressed to him in accordance with this Minute.

Request that my Lords may be favoured with the observations of the Secretary of State with regard to the proposed buildings at Pekin, and the consulate at New-cheang.

— No. 9. —

Mr. *E. C. Egerton* to the Secretary to the Treasury.

Sir,

Foreign Office, 18 October 1867.

I HAVE laid before Lord Stanley your letter of the 16th instant, forwarding a Report from Major Crossman on the Embassy and Consulate Buildings in China, with a copy of the instructions sent to him in reply, and I am directed by his Lordship to request that you will express to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury his entire concurrence with their Lordships' opinion, as to the efficient and satisfactory manner in which Major Crossman is carrying out the duties on which he is employed.

With reference to the points on which Lord Stanley's opinion is asked, I am to state that his Lordship considers that at Pekin houses should be provided for the assistant Chinese secretary, and for the accountant and doctor and their families, and that sufficient accommodation should be provided for the consular establishment at New-cheang, as, after the fullest consideration, his Lordship has come to the conclusion that it would not be advisable to reduce the consulate at that port.

I am to add, that as the consulate at Chinkeang will be abolished, the only provision which will be required there will be for temporary lodging for an officer, who will be occasionally sent up from Shanghai.

I am, &c.

The Secretary to the Treasury. (signed) *E. C. Egerton.*

— No. 10. —

COPY of TREASURY MINUTE, dated 22nd October 1867.

TRANSMIT copy to Major Crossman, and state that, as the Secretary of State is of opinion that the additional accommodation is required at Pekin, and that it is necessary to retain the consul at Newcheang, my Lords approve of the estimated expenditure at those two places; viz., 10,000 *l.* and 6,000 *l.* respectively.

Under the circumstances referred to in the last paragraph, the contemplated expenditure of 5,000 *l.* at Chinkiang will no longer be requisite.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

COPY of Reports from Major Crossman and
CORRESPONDENCE respecting the LEGATION
and CONSULAR BUILDINGS in *China* and
Japan.

(*Mr. Selater-Booth.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
4 June 1868.

COLONIAL BISHOPS.

(Corrected to 1 May 1868.)

RETURNS

OF THE

NAMES of COLONIAL BISHOPS ; stating the SALARIES of each, so far as known to the COLONIAL DEPARTMENT.

(In continuation of House of Commons Paper, No. 575 of 1867.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
12 May 1868.

Name of Bishop.	Diocese.	Salary, and from what Source derived.*
James William Williams	Quebec (Canada)	2,000 dollars a year from a fund created by the investment of a portion of the commutation money received in respect of certain life interests in the Clergy Reserves when these were resumed.
Francis Fulford	Montreal (Metropolitan) (Canada).	1,000 <i>l.</i> per annum from investments in Canada.
A. N. Bethune	Toronto (Canada)	The income of the Bishop is 1,250 <i>l.</i> sterling, derived from the Clergy Commutation Fund, of which the Church Society of the Diocese are the trustees and managers.
John Travers Lewis	Ontario (Canada)	The interest of 10,000 <i>l.</i> , raised by voluntary subscription, and 400 <i>l.</i> per annum (at the death of the Bishop of Toronto, or 1st January 1870, which ever shall first happen), payable from the Commutation Fund of the Diocese of Ontario.
Benjamin Cronyn	Huron (Canada West)	The income of the Bishop of Huron is 600 <i>l.</i> , provincial currency, per annum, derived from an Episcopal Fund, which was formed by investing subscriptions received from individuals in Canada, and grants from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, and the Canada Company.
Hibbert Binney	Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.	510 <i>l.</i> , interest of 8,500 <i>l.</i> , placed by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in hands of trustees, invested in Nova Scotian Debentures ; 120 <i>l.</i> , interest of 2,000 <i>l.</i> , granted by the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, invested by the same trustees on mortgage in Nova Scotia ; 219 <i>l.</i> , interest of Trust Fund paid by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel to present Bishop, but not appropriated to diocese ; and 100 <i>l.</i> , interest of money subscribed in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island towards Endowment of Sec.
John Medley	Fredericton (New Brunswick).	1,000 <i>l.</i> per annum ; Colonial Bishopricks' Fund.

* The information contained in this column is taken from a Return presented to Parliament, 22d March 1867 (No. 307), unless otherwise stated.

Name of Bishop.	Diocese.	Salary, and from what Source derived.																				
Edward Feild -	Newfoundland - -	1,200 - - { 300 <i>l.</i> Parliamentary Vote, as Archdeacon of Newfoundland. 200 <i>l.</i> Parliamentary Vote } as Archdeacon of Bermuda. 200 <i>l.</i> Colonial Funds - } 500 <i>l.</i> from Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, as Bishop of Newfoundland.																				
James Butler Knill Kelly -	Consecrated for the performance of Episcopal functions in Newfoundland.	[No official information.]																				
George Hills - - -	Columbia (British Columbia).	Revenue of Bishopric derived from a capital sum of 15,000 <i>l.</i> , the benefaction of Miss Burdett Coutts, now invested in the Colony, viz. :— <table><tr><td>In land, including 1,000<i>l.</i> expended in providing residence.</td><td>£ 10,000</td></tr><tr><td>On mortgage - - - -</td><td>5,000</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>£ 15,000</td></tr></table> Investments are made in the name of the Bishop and successors (officially), according to the provisions of the Letters Patent.	In land, including 1,000 <i>l.</i> expended in providing residence.	£ 10,000	On mortgage - - - -	5,000		£ 15,000														
In land, including 1,000 <i>l.</i> expended in providing residence.	£ 10,000																					
On mortgage - - - -	5,000																					
	£ 15,000																					
Robert Machray - -	Rupert's Land - -	[No official information.]																				
Aubrey George Spencer -	Jamaica - - -	1,400 <i>l.</i> ; Imperial Treasury. [Extracted from Blue Book.]																				
Reginald Courtenay (Bishop Coadjutor).	Kingston - - -	2,000 <i>l.</i> ; Imperial Treasury. [Ditto.]																				
Addington Robt. Peel Venables	Nassau (Bahamas) -	The income attached to the Bishopric of Nassau is 1,000 <i>l.</i> per annum, payable out of the Consolidated Fund; and from Colonial Funds, 80 <i>l.</i> a year for a residence, and 45 <i>l.</i> for travelling expenses in visiting the out-islands.																				
Thomas Parry - - -	Barbados - - -	The annual salary of the Bishop of Barbados is two thousand five hundred pounds sterling (2,500 <i>l.</i>), paid out of the Consolidated Fund.																				
William Walrond Jackson -	Antigua - - -	The revenue of the Bishop of Antigua is 2,000 <i>l.</i> per annum, derived from the Consolidated Fund.																				
William Piercy Austin -	Guiana (British Guiana) -	The salary of the Bishop is 2,000 <i>l.</i> per annum, and is paid out of the Consolidated Fund.																				
Frederic Barker - - -	Sydney (New South Wales)	1,500 <i>l.</i> from the Public Worship Fund, granted in Schedule C. of the Constitution Act, 18 & 19 Vict. c. 54., and 500 <i>l.</i> from glebe lands secured by Act of the Colonial Legislature to the Bishop and his successors for ever.																				
Edward Wyndham Tufnell -	Brisbane (Queensland) -	<table><tr><td>1. Grant from Colonial Bishops' Fund</td><td>£ 5,000</td><td>s. 0</td><td>d. 0</td></tr><tr><td>2. Further grant from ditto - - -</td><td>1,000</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>3. Amount collected by the Bishop in England before 1860 - - -</td><td>1,523</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>4. Amount collected in Queensland - -</td><td>2,211</td><td>2</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Total - - - -</td><td>£ 9,734</td><td>2</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	1. Grant from Colonial Bishops' Fund	£ 5,000	s. 0	d. 0	2. Further grant from ditto - - -	1,000	0	0	3. Amount collected by the Bishop in England before 1860 - - -	1,523	0	0	4. Amount collected in Queensland - -	2,211	2	0	Total - - - -	£ 9,734	2	0
1. Grant from Colonial Bishops' Fund	£ 5,000	s. 0	d. 0																			
2. Further grant from ditto - - -	1,000	0	0																			
3. Amount collected by the Bishop in England before 1860 - - -	1,523	0	0																			
4. Amount collected in Queensland - -	2,211	2	0																			
Total - - - -	£ 9,734	2	0																			
Charles Perry - - -	Melbourne (Victoria)	1,000 <i>l.</i> , part of grant from Colonial Treasury, under the Constitution Act, in aid of Public Worship. 333 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> , rent of property purchased by money granted by the Council of the Colonial Bishops' Fund.																				
William Tyrrell - - -	Newcastle (New South Wales).	The endowment of the Bishopric is a sum of 20,300 <i>l.</i> at present in the hands of the Bishop, of which 6,000 <i>l.</i> was raised by contributions in England, and the remaining 14,300 <i>l.</i> was contributed in the diocese, mainly by the Bishop and his family.																				

Name of Bishop.	Diocese.	Salary, and from what Source derived.																				
Mesac Thomas	Goulburn (New South Wales).	The revenues of the Bishopric of Goulburn, are as follows :— <table><tr><td>From land given for the endowment of the See : (1) By the late R. Campbell, Esq., of Sydney ; (2) Joseph Bull, Esq., of Goulburn ; (3) and C. Campbell, Esq., of Sydney ; and producing at present an annual income of</td><td>£ s. d.</td></tr><tr><td>The first is situate at Tarradale, about 20 miles from Goulburn, and is mainly uninclosed bushland, containing upwards of 2,400 acres ; the second is a farm of 100 acres at Collector ; the third is a farm of 100 acres near to Queanbeyan, 60 miles from Goulburn.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>From an annual charge upon the Bishopthorpe Estate, Sydney, made by the Bishop of Sydney, with the consent of the Colonial Government</td><td>100 0 0</td></tr><tr><td>From the interest of money collected in the Colony, chiefly by F. R. L. Rossi, Esq., of Rossiville, near Goulburn, viz., the sum of 7,212<i>l.</i>, and producing an annual income of</td><td>489 16 0</td></tr><tr><td>From the interest of 1,000<i>l.</i> voted by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, London, invested in the Colony</td><td>80 0 0</td></tr><tr><td>From the interest of 1,000<i>l.</i> voted by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (retained for the present by the Colonial Bishops' Council, London)</td><td>48 15 0</td></tr><tr><td>From the interest of 1,288<i>l.</i> subscribed in England by the Friends of the Bishop of Goulburn</td><td>90 3 0</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>998 14 0</td></tr><tr><td>Deduct house-rent until an Episcopal Residence can be provided</td><td>120 0 0</td></tr><tr><td>Net income</td><td>£ 878 14 0</td></tr></table> Besides the above, the Government of the Colony have granted 20 acres of land for the Bishop's residence, and F. R. L. Rossi, Esq., has given 153 acres of land for the same purpose. These are about two miles from Goulburn, and contiguous to each other.	From land given for the endowment of the See : (1) By the late R. Campbell, Esq., of Sydney ; (2) Joseph Bull, Esq., of Goulburn ; (3) and C. Campbell, Esq., of Sydney ; and producing at present an annual income of	£ s. d.	The first is situate at Tarradale, about 20 miles from Goulburn, and is mainly uninclosed bushland, containing upwards of 2,400 acres ; the second is a farm of 100 acres at Collector ; the third is a farm of 100 acres near to Queanbeyan, 60 miles from Goulburn.		From an annual charge upon the Bishopthorpe Estate, Sydney, made by the Bishop of Sydney, with the consent of the Colonial Government	100 0 0	From the interest of money collected in the Colony, chiefly by F. R. L. Rossi, Esq., of Rossiville, near Goulburn, viz., the sum of 7,212 <i>l.</i> , and producing an annual income of	489 16 0	From the interest of 1,000 <i>l.</i> voted by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, London, invested in the Colony	80 0 0	From the interest of 1,000 <i>l.</i> voted by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (retained for the present by the Colonial Bishops' Council, London)	48 15 0	From the interest of 1,288 <i>l.</i> subscribed in England by the Friends of the Bishop of Goulburn	90 3 0		998 14 0	Deduct house-rent until an Episcopal Residence can be provided	120 0 0	Net income	£ 878 14 0
From land given for the endowment of the See : (1) By the late R. Campbell, Esq., of Sydney ; (2) Joseph Bull, Esq., of Goulburn ; (3) and C. Campbell, Esq., of Sydney ; and producing at present an annual income of	£ s. d.																					
The first is situate at Tarradale, about 20 miles from Goulburn, and is mainly uninclosed bushland, containing upwards of 2,400 acres ; the second is a farm of 100 acres at Collector ; the third is a farm of 100 acres near to Queanbeyan, 60 miles from Goulburn.																						
From an annual charge upon the Bishopthorpe Estate, Sydney, made by the Bishop of Sydney, with the consent of the Colonial Government	100 0 0																					
From the interest of money collected in the Colony, chiefly by F. R. L. Rossi, Esq., of Rossiville, near Goulburn, viz., the sum of 7,212 <i>l.</i> , and producing an annual income of	489 16 0																					
From the interest of 1,000 <i>l.</i> voted by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, London, invested in the Colony	80 0 0																					
From the interest of 1,000 <i>l.</i> voted by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (retained for the present by the Colonial Bishops' Council, London)	48 15 0																					
From the interest of 1,288 <i>l.</i> subscribed in England by the Friends of the Bishop of Goulburn	90 3 0																					
	998 14 0																					
Deduct house-rent until an Episcopal Residence can be provided	120 0 0																					
Net income	£ 878 14 0																					
Vacant	Consecrated for the performance of Episcopal functions in New South Wales.	[No official information.]																				
Augustus Short	Adelaide (South Australia).*	The revenues of the Bishopric are derived from investments in land and mortgages, made from funds placed at the disposal of the Committee of Bishops and others appointed for the endowment of Colonial Sees.																				
Charles Henry Bromby	Tasmania	700 <i>l.</i> per annum, being the amount fixed by the Synod, and paid out of that portion of the reserve for Public Worship which is assigned by law to the Synod ; also, the profits of a glebe granted by the Crown, and of an estate purchased with a sum of 5,000 <i>l.</i> given by the Trustees of the Colonial Bishoprics' Fund.																				
Mathew Blagden Hale	Perth (Western Australia).	Interest on 5,000<i>l.</i> subscribed by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. This money is invested in South Australia. The income from it is about 450<i>l.</i> per annum. The Bishop of Adelaide is sole trustee for the same. A sum of 1,750<i>l.</i> arising from land surrendered in aid of a stipend for the Bishop by persons in Western Australia, and purchased by the local Government.																				

* Information has been received from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel that the sum of 17,500*l.* was given by Miss Burdett Coutts for the endowment of the Bishopric of Adelaide, and a like sum for the endowment of the Bishopric of Cape Town, forming part of the sources of income of those two sees.

Name of Bishop.	Diocese.	Salary, and from what Source derived.
George Augustus Selwyn	New Zealand	Salary of 600<i>l.</i> per annum voted annually by the Church Missionary Society, until the Consecration of the Bishop of Waiapu in 1859. At that time the two salaries of the Bishop of New Zealand and Ven. Archdeacon Williams (600<i>l.</i> and 200<i>l.</i>) were divided equally between the two Bishops, yielding 400<i>l.</i> per annum to each. Landed endowments in the Diocese of New Zealand, divisible among all the Bishops in New Zealand, bring up the three Bishoprics of New Zealand, Wellington, and Waiapu to an equal income of 480<i>l.</i> per annum each.
Charles John Abraham	Wellington (New Zealand).	
William Williams	Waiapu (New Zealand)	
Andrew Burn Suter	Consecrated for the performance of Episcopal functions in New Zealand.	
Henry John Chitty Harper	Christ Church (New Zealand).	
Henry Lascelles Jenner	Consecrated for the performance of Episcopal functions in New Zealand.	The sum of 428<i>l.</i> is payable annually to the Bishop of Cape Town by the Colonial Bishoprics' Trustees. He receives also the interest on 5,050<i>l.</i> invested in the Colony, as well as travelling allowances to the amount of 400<i>l.</i> per annum, paid out of the Colonial Revenue.
Robert Gray	Cape Town (Cape of Good Hope).*	
Henry Cotterill	Graham's Town (Cape of Good Hope).	The Bishop of Graham's Town receives about 1,000 <i>l.</i> per annum as the interest on money invested in Colonial Securities.
John William Colenso	Natal (Cape of Good Hope).	[No official information.]
Piers Calveley Claughton	Colombo (Ceylon)	The salary of the Bishop is 2,000 <i>l.</i> a year, and he is entitled to an allowance, when travelling, of 2 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> a day, but the total amount to be drawn on this account during any year is limited to 500 <i>l.</i> These amounts are paid from Colonial Funds.
Charles Richard Alford	Victoria (Hong Kong)	The revenue of the Bishopric is 1,000 <i>l.</i> a year, and derived from the Colonial Bishoprics' Fund.
Francis Thomas M'Dougall	Labuan (Borneo)	The income of the Bishop amounts to 660 <i>l.</i> and is derived from the interest of 9,000 <i>l.</i> in the Colonial Bishoprics' Fund, producing 360 <i>l.</i> , and a grant of 300 <i>l.</i> annually from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.
Vincent William Ryan	Mauritius	720 <i>l.</i> , and 100 <i>l.</i> for travelling allowance, from the revenues of the Colony. [Extracted from the Blue Book.]
Edward Hyndman Beckles	Sierra Leone	500 <i>l.</i> , Colonial Funds; and 402 <i>l.</i> Colonial Bishoprics' Fund. [Extracted from the Blue Book.]
Thomas Earle Welby	St. Helena	This Bishopric is endowed with a residence, and an income of 280 <i>l.</i> a year, arising from the interest of a sum of money raised partly by contributions of the inhabitants of St. Helena, partly by the Bishop of Cape Town, and partly by a grant from the Colonial Bishoprics' Fund. The above income is supplemented by this Government with 500 <i>l.</i> a year, the salary attached to the Colonial Chaplaincy, which office is held with the Bishopric.
Hon. Charles Amyand Harris	Gibraltar	The revenue of the See is 1,200 <i>l.</i> a year, paid by the Trustees of the Colonial Bishoprics' Fund.

* Vide foot-note on the preceding page.

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

709
COOLIE EMIGRATION.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 19 May 1868 ;—for,

“COPIES of MEMORIAL to the Governor of *Hong Kong* from the Chief
Justice of *Hong Kong* and the Honourable Mr. *Whittall* on COOLIE
EMIGRATION :”

“ And, of REPLY of the Governor thereto.”

Colonial Office, }
11 June 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

(*Mr. William Edward Forster.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
11 June 1868.

LIST OF PAPERS.

Number in Series.	Number and Date.	SUBJECT.	Page.
	DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR:		
1	28 June 1867 (No. 316)	Transmits Ordinance, No. 6 of 1867, "For better Securing the Health of Chinese Passenger Ships clearing for Hong Kong," and also a Memorial from the Chief Justice and Mr. Whittall for the suppression of Chinese Coolie Emigration -	3
2	5 July 1867 (No. 317)	Encloses the reply to the Memorial of Chief Justice Smale and Mr. Whittall, with a Return of Emigrants from Hong Kong from 1861 to 1866 -	10
	DESPATCH FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE:		
3	23 September 1867 (No. 117).	In reply to the above Despatches - - -	15

COPIES of MEMORIAL to the Governor of *Hong Kong* from the Chief Justice of *Hong Kong* and the Honourable Mr. *Whittall*, on COOLIE EMIGRATION; and, of REPLY of the Governor thereto.

— No. 1. —

(No. 316.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell*, C.B., to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Government House, *Hong Kong*,
28 June 1867.

(Received, 19 August 1867.)

My Lord Duke,

(Answered, No. 117, 23 Sept. 1867, page 15.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith an Ordinance, No. 6, of 1867 "For better securing the Health of Chinese passenger Ships clearing from *Hong Kong*."

2. In his Despatch, No. 74, of the 26th April last year, Mr. Cardwell drew my attention to a communication from Mr. Murdoch commenting on a report of the Committee appointed here to inquire into the mortality on board of the British ship "Tricolor," which sailed from *Hong Kong*, in May 1865.

3. Mr. Murdoch's letter points out the necessity for many improvements in the details of the supervision of the emigrants, more especially with reference to the sanatory precautions essential before their embarkation, and Mr. Cardwell instructed me to give early attention to the subject with a view to a thorough revision of the regulations then existing.

4. This subject has since occupied much of my attention, and I soon found it impossible without further legislation to give effect to the views and wishes of Her Majesty's Government; a result caused by section 2 of the Imperial Chinese Passengers Act, of 1855, which requires all regulations, except on some minor points concerning length of voyage and dietary, to be enacted by Ordinance of this Legislature.

5. I have had several reports on the subject of Mr. Cardwell's communication from the harbour master, the magistrates, the Colonial Surgeon, &c., and the enclosed Ordinance will, I trust, be found to embody the provisions most essential for the welfare of intending emigrants.

6. It will be found that the lodgment of the latter in suitable depôts by the charterers of emigrant vessels, and the maintenance of the emigrants therein, is provided for, and such lodgment for at least three days before departure of the vessel is made obligatory.

7. During their maintenance at such depôts, a medical officer appointed by the Government will constantly visit the depôts, and both before and after embarkation will inspect each emigrant individually.

8. Above all, the medical officer will be no longer paid by fees, which system was no doubt at the bottom of many irregularities that formerly prevailed, but will receive a fixed salary not exceeding \$2,000 per annum, whilst the fees formerly payable to him will be paid into the Treasury.

9. A power is also given of appointing, with approval of the Governor, Chinese doctors for Chinese emigrants, and if a sufficient salary be paid by the charterers, I am informed that competent persons can occasionally be found for such

No. 1.

Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell, C.B., to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

28 June 1867.

Enclosure 1.

such posts, but that one or more competent doctors should accompany each vessel may be regarded now as a matter quite within the power of the Executive to enforce.

10. I may here remark that I expect to find a competent medical man for the above salary to discharge the duties both of medical inspector under the "Order and Cleanliness" Ordinance (No. 9, of this year), and under the enclosed Ordinance. The salary has been fixed partly in reference to the average fees at the rate of 25 dollars per 100 emigrants heretofore payable to the officer medically inspecting them.

11. The following represents approximately the emigration from Hong Kong in passenger vessels under the Imperial Chinese Passenger Act, from the year 1861 to 1866, inclusive :

YEAR.										Emigrants.
1861	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,840
1862	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,421
1863	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,809
1864	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,607
1865	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,849
1866	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,115
TOTAL - - -										49,641

That return shows a gradual decrease in the emigration which may be regarded as now chiefly conducted from Macao, in a manner which may be briefly described as generally amounting to a renewal of the slave trade.

12. It seems very probable, therefore, that the emigration of persons for whom Government protection is needed will amount to little during the current year. Nevertheless, to whatever extent it may be carried on, the same necessity for an adequate supervision of it will continue, and the salary proposed for the Medical Inspector, whilst amply remunerative for the work under both Ordinances, will probably secure an independent and efficient officer.

13. I think it right to mention here, that when the Ordinance came before the Council for a second reading, the Honourable James Whittall, seconded by the Chief Justice, moved that there should be no further legislation on the subject, and so prevent any Chinese emigration from the Colony. Their argument was drawn from the abuses which prevail in emigration as conducted from Macao.

14. I pointed out the impolicy of closing, to those desirous of conducting emigration on a legitimate footing, the only port open for the purpose; 2nd, the injustice both to the Chinese seeking employment, and to our own Colonies requiring their labour, to attempt to stop the supply from here, because elsewhere irregularities were permitted which this Government were doing their utmost to prevent; 3rd, the futility of attempting to stop all emigration by merely declining to pass an Ordinance, improving existing legislation, whilst our former Ordinances dealing with the same subject remained unrepealed; and lastly, the want of power in the Council to prohibit emigration hence, as it had already been permitted both by Imperial and Local Legislatures, and had been made the subject of public treaties.

15. As Mr. Whittall and the Chief Justice had expressed their approval of the enclosed enactment, if there was to be any legislation on the subject, I therefore suggested that they should embody their views against emigration generally in a separate memorial, which I would be happy to forward to your Grace with the enclosed Ordinance which, under the Imperial Act, requires confirmation before it can be our law here, and this suggestion was accepted.

16. I have just received the memorial which they signified their intention to prepare, but cannot say that their arguments convince me of the policy of a
total

total prohibition of emigration from this port of Chinese willing to contract for a term of service abroad, and whose willingness has been ascertained by reliable officers employed by this Government. I do not consider that without your Grace's sanction I would be authorised in proposing a measure so antagonistic to all previous local and imperial legislation, merely because undeniable and gross abuses are committed in the conduct of emigration at a neighbouring port.

17. I would rather expect that Chinese labourers in search of lucrative employment elsewhere would be usefully assisted by having at least one port open to them, where they could be certain of fair treatment and of every necessary attention being paid to their physical wants, and, above all, where they could implicitly rely on receiving ample protection against those coercive measures practised at Macao.

18. Sir Rutherford Alcock, when transmitting to me the Convention entered into by himself and the French Minister at Peking, on the 5th March 1866, with the Chinese Government, as to the conduct of emigration from Chinese ports, favoured me at the same time with a copy of a despatch from Prince Kung, in which that functionary speaks of the proceedings at Macao in terms quite as condemnatory as those used by the Chief Justice and Mr. Whittall.

19. That Convention, however, does not, of course, apply to Hong Kong, nor could it be applied here, as it contemplates the procurement of coolie labourers, only through agencies at the free ports and under conditions sanctioned both by the native authorities and Her Majesty's Consuls.

20. It might, nevertheless, be matter of consideration for Her Majesty's Government, whether this Legislature should not prohibit any emigration hence of Chinese entering into contracts for hired service unless on conditions similar to those imposed by that Convention for emigrants from the treaty ports of China.

21. If Mr. Whittall and the Chief Justice had made this the prayer of their memorial, they would have raised a point in favour of which much might have been said, whereas at present they ask me to go beyond the wishes of the Chinese authorities themselves, and prohibit altogether any emigration for hired service.

22. For myself, I think it premature as yet to insist at Hong Kong on every contract for hired labour containing the strict conditions for a return passage at the end of five years, &c., which the Peking Convention contemplates. I would prefer seeing whether strict supervision of all emigration from this port under the enclosed Ordinance cannot effect much good both for employer of labour and the hired labourers in British Colonies and in those places where an honest Government supervision is maintained over the emigrants.

23. The subject is certainly one of importance, and cannot be considered disposed of, because it might be easy to reply to the enclosed memorial. I should certainly think it desirable to be invested with authority to revise and modify all contracts, and to prohibit emigration of hired labourers under any circumstances or in any vessel from this Colony to the Havannah or other place where, from time to time, I might have good reason for regarding the emigrants as being unfairly or cruelly treated.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell*,
Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Encl. 1 in No. 1.

HONG KONG.

ANNO TRICESIMO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. 6, of 1867.

Sir *Richard Graves MacDonnell*, Knight, C.B., Governor and Commander in Chief.

- Title.** AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of Hong Kong, with the Advice of the Legislative Council thereof, for better securing the Health of Emigrants in Chinese Passenger Ships clearing from Hong Kong.—17th June 1867.
- Preamble.** WHEREAS it is expedient to make further provision for better securing the health of emigrants in Chinese passenger ships clearing from Hong Kong: Be it enacted by the Governor of Hong Kong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:
- Short Title.** I. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as the “Hong Kong Emigration Ordinance, 1867.”
- Interpretation of Terms.** II. In the interpretation of this Ordinance, the expression “Chinese passenger ship” shall mean every ship carrying from any port in the Colony of Hong Kong and its dependencies more than 20 passengers, being natives of Asia, on any voyage of more than seven days’ duration within the meaning of the “Chinese Passengers Act, 1855,” as defined by Section III. of Ordinance, No. 9, of 1856.
- Depôts to be provided for the lodgement of emigrants.** III. The owners or charterers of every Chinese passenger ship shall, as soon as such ship is laid on for the conveyance of Chinese emigrants, provide a depôt or depôts in the City of Victoria, to be approved of by the emigration officer, wherein every intending emigrant by such ship may lodge as hereinafter provided, and every such depôt shall be maintained and every emigrant lodging therein shall be supported at the expense of such owners or charterers.
- Notice of ship being laid on as a Chinese passenger ship to be given to emigration officer.** IV. The owners or charterers of every Chinese passenger ship, or if absent from the Colony, their respective agents, shall, as soon as such ship is laid on for the conveyance of Chinese emigrants, give notice in writing of the fact to the emigration officer specifying in such notice the name, destination, and probable time of departure of such ship, and the depôt or depôts in which the intending emigrants by such ship are lodging or intended to be lodged before embarkation.
- Emigrants to lodge in depôt three clear days before embarkation.** V. Every intending emigrant in a Chinese passenger ship shall, unless exempted by the emigration officer, lodge at the least three clear days previously to his embarkation in the depôt provided by the owners or charterers of such ship, with the approval of the emigration officer, in pursuance of Section III.
- Supervision of depôts and control of emigrants therein.** VI. Every such depôt as aforesaid shall be under the supervision of the emigration officer, who may inspect the same at such times as he shall think fit, and may from time to time, with the approval of the Governor in Council, make any regulations which shall be deemed expedient to ensure the healthiness thereof, and the proper treatment and control of the emigrants lodging therein.
- Notice of every passage contract made with an emigrant to be given to emigration officer.** VII. The owners or charterers of every Chinese passenger ship, or if absent from the Colony their respective agents, and every licensed emigration passage broker who shall contract with any intending emigrant for a passage in such ship, shall forthwith give notice in writing to the emigration officer of every such contract, specifying the name, age, and sex of such emigrant, and the name of such ship.
- Governor authorised to appoint a medical officer at a salary not exceeding 2,000 dollars per annum.** VIII. The Governor is hereby authorised to appoint, at a salary not exceeding \$ 2,000 per annum, a medical officer, whose duty it shall be to inspect intending emigrants and to supervise all matters and things in any way relating to the comfort and well-being of such emigrants both before their departure and on their voyage, and such salary shall be in lieu of all fees.
- Medical Inspection.** IX. The medical inspection of intending emigrants by a Chinese passenger ship required by Ordinance, No. 6, of 1859, shall take place on shore before embarkation as well as on board the said ship after embarkation, and the emigration officer shall not grant the certificate required by the “Chinese Passengers Act, 1855,” unless he shall be satisfied that such double inspection has been duly made.
- No emigrant to embark or be received on board without a permit.** X. It shall not be lawful for any emigrant to embark in any Chinese passenger ship, or for the master or other person in charge of a Chinese passenger ship to permit any emigrant to embark therein, unless such emigrant shall previously have received and shall produce an embarkation permit from the emigration officer, who shall not grant the same

same unless he shall be satisfied that such emigrant has undergone on shore the medical inspection required by law to be made before embarkation.

XI. The medical inspection of emigrants required to be made after their embarkation in any Chinese passenger ship shall take place at such time as the emigration officer shall appoint.

Emigration officer to appoint time for medical inspection after embarkation.

XII. The fees heretofore payable to the medical practitioner effecting such inspection shall be paid in the first instance by the charterer of such ship to the emigration officer, and by him paid into the Treasury.

Fees, how payable.

XIII. Any Chinese medical practitioner, properly qualified to the satisfaction of the colonial surgeon, shall be eligible with approval of the Governor for the office of surgeon of a Chinese passenger ship within the terms of Schedule A of the "Chinese Passengers Act, 1855."

Chinese medical practitioners approved by colonial surgeon may be surgeons of Chinese passenger ships. Chinese medicines and medical comforts.

XIV. In all cases where a Chinese medical practitioner shall be appointed surgeon of a Chinese passenger ship, the whole or any portion of the medicines and medical comforts required to be placed on board by the said Schedule may be dispensed with, provided that in lieu thereof suitable and sufficient medicines and medical comforts, adapted to the method of treatment pursued by the Chinese, shall be placed on board according to a scale to be approved by the colonial surgeon.

XV. The Order of Her Majesty the Queen in Council, dated the 5th day of December 1865, relating to the quantity of water to be carried by passenger ships having a certain description of condensing apparatus, shall apply to Chinese passenger ships.

Order in Council of the 5th day of December 1865 to apply to Chinese passenger ships.

XVI. The owners or charterers of any Chinese passenger ship, and any emigration passage broker, and any intending emigrant by a Chinese passenger ship, and any master or other person in charge of a Chinese passenger ship, who shall fail to comply with or commit any breach of the provisions of this Ordinance, or any regulations and bye-laws to be framed under this Ordinance, in pursuance of Sections VI. and XVIII., so far as they may respectively be bound thereby, and any person granting or knowingly uttering any forged certificate, permit, notice, or other document under this Ordinance shall, without prejudice to any other proceeding, civil or criminal, be liable, upon summary conviction before a magistrate, to a fine not exceeding \$500, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding six months.

Punishment of persons committing any breach of this Ordinance.

XVII. No Chinese passenger ship bound to any port westward of the Cape of Good Hope shall be permitted to clear from any port in the Colony between the months of May and September inclusive.

No Chinese passenger ship to clear between May and September.

XVIII. The Governor in Council may, from time to time, make, alter, and revoke any bye-laws for regulating the fees payable on account of medical inspection and supervision under the "Chinese Passengers Act, 1855," and may also make, alter, and revoke any bye-laws and regulations for giving effect to this or any other Ordinance of the Colony, in force for the time being, relating to Chinese passenger ships, and generally for better carrying into effect the provisions and objects of the said Act and Ordinances respectively.

The Governor in Council may make bye-laws.

XIX. For the purpose of this Ordinance, the forms prescribed by Section IV. of the "Chinese Passengers Act, 1855," and contained in Schedules B and C of the said Act, may be varied by the emigration officer, with the approval of the Governor in Council, and the said forms so varied as aforesaid may be substituted in lieu thereof.

Forms in Schedules of "Chinese Passengers Act, 1855," may be varied.

XX. No Chinese passenger ship shall clear out or proceed to sea without strictly conforming with the regulations contained in Schedule A of the "Chinese Passengers Act, 1855," except so far as the said regulations are modified or altered by any of the provisions of this Ordinance or may be inconsistent therewith; and, except as aforesaid, the said regulations shall be and continue in full force and effect.

Regulations of Schedule A of "Chinese Passengers Act, 1855," to be in force except as altered by this Ordinance. Ordinance not to extend to mail steamers.

XXI. This Ordinance shall not extend to any steam vessel regularly employed in the conveyance of the public mails under a contract with the Government of the State or Colony to which such steam vessel may belong.

Suspending Clause.

XXII. This Ordinance shall not come into operation until Her Majesty's confirmation thereof shall have been proclaimed in the Colony by the Governor.

Passed the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, this 17th day of June 1867.

L. d'Almada e Castro,
Clerk of Councils.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Encl. 2 in No. 1. To His Excellency Sir *Richard Graves MacDonnell*, C.B., Governor of Hong Kong and its Dependencies.

May it please your Excellency,

This Memorial sheweth—

THAT the fact that the colonial legislation affecting Chinese emigration is undergoing improvement appears to us to present a fitting opportunity whereon to lay before you certain sentiments and views relative to one branch of that emigration, which we have for a length of time past entertained.

2. We admit that the Ordinance just passed in Council tends to ameliorate the condition of the coolie emigrant, and that it is a valuable supplement to Ordinances, No. 11, of 1857, and, No. 6, of 1859, which regulate the coolie trade, and we feel satisfied that so long as the Administration, which has recently very greatly lessened crime and increased protection for life and property in this Colony, may continue, all the protection with which it is possible to surround the coolie in Hong Kong will be afforded. But we still feel constrained to wholly and loudly condemn the conveyance from China of coolies under contracts for service abroad for terms of years. This system is so inherently bad, and is so dependent upon crime and wrong for its existence, that we pray the day may come, when by the common consent of civilized nations, its prosecution shall be rendered penal; and in the meanwhile we beseech your Excellency to free Hong Kong from the stain of participation in it, and to enact that no vessel whatever shall clear from colonial waters with Chinese on board held to service or labour abroad by contract for a term of years, and that no such contracts, no matter how or where entered into, shall be valid in the colonial courts.

3. We do not require to relate in detail to your Excellency the grounds which lead us to thus strongly deprecate what is commonly known as "Coolie Emigration," and to pray that any promotion of it, within colonial waters, at least, may be made illegal. You are well aware that all assertion and evidence, so called, to the contrary notwithstanding, few Chinese peasants enter into contracts for service or labour abroad, possessed of any clear, intelligent sense of what they are doing. Too often the miserable wretches doomed by this dreadful traffic to a lifetime of exile and slavery (for although the trade has now existed for years, few, if any, of its victims have returned to China) are torn by violence from their friends and homes, or have been obtained by means of deception and misrepresentation; it being notorious to all persons acquainted with Chinese character, and manner of thought, that none of these people would consent to quit their native land, did they thoroughly understand the nature of the lives, which even in the most favourable localities, say the British and Dutch West Indian Colonies and the Hawaiian Islands, lie before them.

4. We are aware that in the case of vessels lying in this harbour for hired emigrants, it is nearly certain that our colonial laws, earnestly, righteously, and rigidly administered as they would be, are sufficient to protect the liberties of the Chinese, so long as these remained within our jurisdiction; but the ship once dispatched from colonial waters, if her flag were non-British, your Excellency might be constrained to witness all the beneficial regulations so carefully enforced set at naught, and crowds of emigrants, in addition to those obtained here, shipped within a few miles of this harbour, in defiance of all colonial enactment. Upon this ground alone we would consider the legislative remedy which we have asked for above to be imperatively required. But when we further remember that none of the classes of Chinese from which hired emigration is drawn, are to be found in Hong Kong at all, that this miserable system which we condemn cannot be justified even on the poor ground that it relieves us of pauperism or of crime, and that the only effect of its legalisation is to allow the island to be used as a dépôt for the collection of unhappy wretches, who know neither what they are doing, nor what is being done with them, we feel that we can scarcely urge our desire in language too strong for the occasion. For the reputation of the Colony, therefore, for the sake of example, and for the honour, in so far as it is given to your Excellency and to ourselves to uphold the same, of the British flag, we call upon you to solemnly condemn by colonial legislation this trade in human bodies, which, bearing the impress of misery wherever it is carried on, culminates at our very gates into the hideous form of slavery. It is because we are well assured that whenever a ship takes away hired labourers from China, she is made an instrument of fraud and oppression, and because we desire to protest in the most solemn, public, and efficacious manner against the crimes and barbarities of which at least one locality at the mouth of the Canton river is the daily theatre, that we urge your Excellency to take a step, which, we hope, will arrest the attention of the civilized world.

5. For our ultimate aim is the entire suppression of this modern form of slavery, and the consequent extinction of the cruelties uninterruptedly carried on at its head-quarters.

We

We do not desire to reflect upon the Government, from whose waters are steadily despatched ships conveying crowds of ignorant coolies to lives of unrelenting toil, and, in most instances, to miserable deaths. We will give that Government credit for thoroughly good intentions, and we are anxious to admit that the letter of their legislation in connection with "Coolie Emigration" is very near perfection, and is such as would make it appear to the distant reader that, under its provisions, not only need no Chinaman quit his native land unless he be minded so to do, but that jealous care is taken by the authorities in question that he be neither intimidated nor entrapped into a consent which he really did not mean to give. We, who dwell upon the spot, know too well how wide of the truth such an impression would be. We desire, however, to record our belief that the authorities we refer to are deceived by formal compliance with their ordinances even as other governments might be similarly juggled; but we do not require to tell your Excellency that these very regulations, said to be designed to protect the coolie against fraud and restraint, are, with detestable ingenuity, converted into meshes whereby to entrap him more securely. These regulations are of no utility whatever; they serve but to cast dust in the eyes of the world; they afford no protection to the coolie. On the contrary, they extend direct encouragement to the man-stealers who infest the coast of China from the Gulf of Tongking to that of Pechili, because, so soon as their letter is complied with, they shift the responsibility of the miserable coolie's detention from the shoulders of his kidnappers to those of official authority. We use the designation "kidnappers" without reserve, and your Excellency will not fail to consider us justified in doing so when you recall to mind the detestation in which all Chinese connected with the coolie trade are held by their own authorities and countrymen, who hasten to destroy the miscreants if detected in the pursuit of their nefarious vocation. Nor, in further justification of our language, will your Excellency fail to remember the cases recently brought to light of the Annamese who were abducted by violence, and of the coolies on the banks of the Yangtze who were ensnared into a piratical lorcha, were carried to the chief seat of the traffic, and there sold into slavery, or, in other words, were compelled to enter into contracts for labour abroad, when far from home and friends, starved, destitute, and surrounded by cruel men whose language even they did not understand. As soon as these contracts had been rendered formal and irrevocable by governmental seal, the price of the miserable victims' persons was duly paid over to their villainous captors.

6. Your Excellency knows well that the horrible picture which we have just essayed to draw is under rather than over-coloured. You are fully aware that did we possess access to the prison houses whose proximity to the shores of this Colony we deplore, we should be enabled to disclose an aggregate of cruelty, wretchedness, and misery possibly at the present day unequalled in the world. Your Excellency will sympathize with us when we proclaim aloud that we should lie to our consciences did we not protest, in the strongest language, against the maintenance of a traffic which is characterised by many of the worst features of that old slave trade so earnestly crushed by our country. We call upon the Imperial Government to render penal the conveyance under the British flag of persons held to labour or service as such, first, because that enactment would deal a heavy blow against an iniquitous system; and second, because England would thereby with clean hands be enabled to enlist the co-operation of all other civilised powers towards its suppression.

7. And it is of national importance that Great Britain, the queen-power of the East, should not continue to witness the existence of a wicked wrong, within 40 miles of one of her own Colonies, without at least remonstrating against it. But for the footing for foreigners gained in China by British and French arms, the coolie trade would never have arisen, and would at once be swept away by the Chinese Government. As Englishmen, therefore, we feel our country to be directly responsible for the continuance of this stain upon civilisation, and we earnestly pray that Her Gracious Majesty's advisers will do their best to speedily free her subjects from such a reproach.

8. There exist yet other grounds pertinent to Englishmen upon which we desire to see participation in the conveyance of persons held to service under contract rendered penal, no matter how good the accommodations or conveniences provided. These grounds are; the dangerous and degrading nature of the occupation, and the fact, as we believe, that all contracts for labour being voidable while one of the parties is within British jurisdiction, it is therefore false and wrong to place persons so situated in the custody and restraint of a British shipmaster. The danger and degradation to which we have alluded we are anxious to see British seamen no longer exposed to. That the employment is dangerous is a fact to which a score of coolie mutinies on board ship, accompanied by every circumstance of bloodshed and loss of life, bear dreadful testimony. That it is degrading cannot be denied, when it is known that the live cargo which never committed any crime, but which was only cruelly deceived, must be watched by armed men, as well for its own safety, as for that of those who are paid to conduct it into slavery. We ask that the British flag may be saved from further such dishonour.

9. From one point of view do we deeply regret that we should feel compelled to make this appeal to Her Majesty's Government. We are grieved that we should find ourselves taking a step inimical to the interests of our West Indian fellow subjects, to whom we

believe a supply of Chinese agricultural labour to be an unmixed benefit, and who, we also understand, have administered the trust thus devolved upon them wisely, justly, and conscientiously. We sincerely deplore the misfortune which the deprivation of Chinese agricultural labour would prove to Colonies which have already suffered so greatly in support of our common country's renown; but we dare not, upon that account, refrain from exposing and denouncing the evils and horrors of a traffic which, for one poor Chinese coolie that it may send to possible happiness, consigns ten to a life of unspeakable wretchedness.

10. We have written strongly in deprecation of the afflictions to humanity which originate in and result from the conveyance abroad of Chinese hired emigrants, but it must not therefore be understood that we view with feelings other than those of unmingled approbation the encouragement of free emigration from this empire. Let voluntary emigration, pure and simple, be as uncontrolled from China as from Ireland, but let it be made criminal for British subjects to aid, abet, or in any way subserve, contracts of servitude for a term of years.

11. We conclude with an earnest expression of our hope, that by means of your Excellency's assistance and endeavours, the suppression of Chinese coolie emigration may be achieved. It is an object which lies very close to our hearts, and should your Excellency bring it about, it will hereafter be a source of extreme gratification to us to remember that your name, in connection with the administration of this Colony, has been associated with the overthrow of a system which is at once a disgrace to civilisation at large, to foreign and to British intercourse with China.

And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

(signed) *John Smale*, Chief Justice.
James Whittall.

Hong Kong, 27 June 1867.

— No. 2. —

No. 2.

(No. 317.)

Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell, C.B.,
to the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir R. G. MacDonnell, C.B., to His
Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

Government House, Hong Kong,
5 July 1867.

(Received, 4 September 1867.)

(Answered, No. 117, 23 September 1867, page 15.)

* Page 3.

My Lord Duke,

IN reference to my Despatch, No. 316,* of the 28th ultimo, in which I transmitted a memorial from the Chief Justice, and the Honourable James Whittall, against any emigration from Hong Kong, under contracts from here, I have now the honour to enclose a reply which I caused to be sent to those gentlemen. I thought it prudent to place in that way my reasons for differing with them in a clear light and in my own language, so that whatever might be the relative merits of the policy supported by myself or by them, the arguments on both sides should be fairly before the public.

2. I regard their memorial as important, though not from any suggestions it contains, for its prayer appears to be entirely beyond the powers of this Legislature, whilst even if it were within those powers it would seem most impolitic to grant it. Its importance arises rather from the opportunity it affords for discussing and settling the terms on which emigration under contracts should be regulated, and the expediency of giving the executive here certain increased powers for determining what contracts should be allowed, and to what countries emigration should be permitted.

3. It is not very clear how far it is within the power of this Legislature to take any action in the latter direction, but in any case it seems very undesirable that in questions more especially under Imperial charge, and now undergoing Imperial revision, there should be any isolated legislation here, or any interference till the intentions and wishes of Her Majesty's Government had been previously ascertained.

4. Your Grace will, I hope, find that in the enclosed reply I have dealt with the subject so as to place the above points in an intelligible light, and I am
thereby

Enclosure No. 1.

thereby relieved from the necessity of dwelling longer on the subject here.

5. As connected with it, I think it advisable to transmit for your Grace's information a return of the emigration from Hong Kong during the six years ended last December. Out of the total, 49,251, it is to be observed that the great majority, 37,364, went to California and Australia, being emigrants, some of whom defray their own passages, but the great majority of whom go out at the expense of relatives or friends under contracts of service to their countrymen already settled in California and Australia. The remainder, 11,887, were emigrants under contracts for hire to the West Indies and elsewhere, and of these 4,171 went to the British West Indies, whilst all emigration to the latter has ceased since the end of 1862; emigration thither having been since conducted from Canton.

Enclosure No. 2.

6. That change has, I think, for many reasons, not worked well for our British West Indian colonies, and I believe Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners would find the direct supervision of this Government more effectual in every way for the interests of the emigrants and of the planters in the event of its being renewed, as it is to be hoped may yet be the case, though the Peking Convention of last year has annihilated it from either port, and been a great promoter indirectly of those evils which it was intended to put down.

7. The whole question may now, however, be regarded as submitted once more to the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, whilst, in the meantime, the action of this Government remains limited to a strict supervision of all emigrants leaving this port under the Chinese Passengers Act, so far as regards the voluntary character of that emigration and the sanitary conditions under which it is conducted.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell*,
Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Gentlemen,

Colonial Secretary's Office, 4 July 1867.

Encl. 1 in No. 2.

1. I AM instructed by His Excellency Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, to acknowledge receipt, on the 28th ultimo, of your memorial of the 27th ultimo, urging your objections to all emigration from Hong Kong under contracts for hire.

2. His Excellency is most ready to acknowledge the humane and honourable feelings which prompted that memorial, and therefore willingly transmitted it to his Grace the Secretary of State when forwarding, by last mail, the Emigration Ordinance passed on the 17th ultimo, from the discussion of which your memorial originated.

3. Yet, whilst fully appreciating your motives, his Excellency regrets that your memorial should urge a request entirely beyond his power to grant. You "beseech his Excellency to enact that no vessel whatever shall clear from colonial waters with Chinese on board, held to service or labour abroad by contract for a term of years, and that no such contracts, no matter how or where entered into, shall be valid in the colonial courts." In reply it is only necessary to point out that all Chinese emigration from Hong Kong is entirely regulated under authority of an Imperial Act (18 & 19 Vict. c. 114), which Act if not earlier proclaimed by the Governor of Hong Kong was directed (sec. 7) to come into force here on the 1st January 1856. That Act, moreover, though empowering the Hong Kong Legislature to pass regulations for Chinese passengers subject to confirmation by Her Majesty's Government, was nevertheless launched complete with all necessary regulations and forms, and without any action on the part of this Legislature came into force by Imperial authority in January 1855.

4. Therefore his Excellency can only regard your request for a local enactment to terminate all Chinese emigration from Hong Kong of whatsoever kind, if under contracts for service, as tantamount to requesting him to repeal an Act of the Imperial Parliament, which you will admit he has obviously no power to do.

5. As to the policy of the step which you recommend, supposing it possible, his Excellency does not believe that the abuses which you say disgrace emigration from the neighbouring port of Macao, offer a sufficient reason for closing to the labouring classes in

China, or the employers of labour elsewhere, a port where such abuses are not alleged to exist, and where they cannot exist without great incompetency or bad faith on the part of the Executive, neither of which charges are brought against this Government. It would seem as reasonable to ask for the closing of a police station, because pirates and lawless characters frequent its vicinity.

6. His Excellency, however, is prepared to go further and affirm that, so far as regards the character of the emigration from this port, there has been nothing to justify its suppression, though the regulations affecting it may admit of improvement. Having administered Governments in the West Indies and in Australia, he has acquired information as to both free and hired Chinese emigrants, and cannot agree with you, from what he observed in either place, that Chinese peasants enter into contracts without "any intelligent sense of what they are doing;" neither can he by his silence appear to sanction the applicability to Hong Kong of your description of the emigrants as "miserable wretches doomed by this dreadful traffic to a lifetime of exile and slavery, and torn by violence from their friends and homes, and obtained by means of deception and misrepresentation." Such a description of the emigrants clearing from this port would be most untrue, and, if not true, the argument founded thereon for closing this port against emigration, whilst other ports where those irregularities are said to take place remain open, seems not merely an impolitic suggestion, but directly opposed to the premises from whence you deduce the conclusion that such a proceeding is expedient.

7. His Excellency would further remind you that, however ignorant Chinese peasants may be of the geographical position of the countries to which they emigrate, they are not ignorant of the kind of labour which they contract to undertake or the nature of the lives which they will probably lead. Whatever be the class of labour for which they contract, whether, as at Bombay for making docks, or for agricultural purposes, as in the West Indies, the description of labour is stated in their contracts, printed both in English and Chinese. Many of the emigrants can read—in fact, a greater proportion of the Chinese than the assisted European emigrants in Australia could both read and write. It is not to be supposed that the active and upright officer entrusted here with the supervision of emigration neglects his duty in seeing that the emigrants are not merely willing to go but that they understand why and on what conditions they are going—nor is it probable that they do not converse amongst themselves—those who can and those who cannot read—as to the conditions on which they contract to give their labour.

8. Some time back a very interesting ceremony took place in Demerara, where an undoubted and sincere friend of the Chinese, Admiral Sir James Hope, laid the foundation of a new town, to be called Hopetown, and destined for the residences of the Chinese, who having gone to that colony as hired labourers, preferred to make it their permanent home, and had formed fresh ties and connections there. It is most improbable that those labourers had not benefited by the emigration which you now seek to terminate. His Excellency can further personally vouch that in the British West Indian Colonies such emigrants are more frequently over than under protected, and often more in the position of dictators to their employers than of servants. It is true you express your regret at having to propose the closing of such a promising field of labour, a sufficient reason in his Excellency's opinion for not proposing to close it, especially when thereby you only confer a monopoly on the operations of a port to which you object.

9. His Excellency has also been reminded by Mr. Thomsett, the Harbour master, that the present Governor of Honduras, Mr. Austin, was for a long time the agent at Hong Kong for promoting emigration to the West Indies, and having witnessed the system from the commencement to the termination of the contract, he will probably be much surprised to hear the result of his labours alluded to in the terms used in your memorial, which terms, if not applicable to emigration at Hong Kong, are entirely beside the argument advanced for closing this port.

10. I am further to remind you that masters of all emigrant vessels, irrespective of their nationality, enter into a bond here for 1,000 £. not to take more than the regulated number of passengers entered in the emigration officer's certificate, and certainly no case of forced and reluctant emigrants despatched from here has been proved, whilst it is undoubtedly true that no mutiny has occurred on board of any vessel which cleared with emigrants from Hong Kong. This latter fact is entitled to much weight as showing inferentially that the emigrants were at least satisfied with their treatment, and apparently contented to abide by their contracts.

11. His Excellency, however, admits that the efficiency of any system framed to protect emigrants does not mainly depend on the outward forms and rules adopted by the executive. The best regulations may be rendered worthless by the bad faith of the authorities entrusted with their application. This is conceded; but unless it be affirmed that this Government or its officers cannot or will not see that every emigrant goes voluntarily, and understands the nature of his contract, or that in some other way the rules in force will not be carried out, the necessity for closing this port in the interest of the emigrant ceases, and the argument founded on that necessity falls through. If, for example, it could be shown that a lorch fitted for kidnapping purposes can seize from boats and villages on the mainland a cargo of unfortunate beings, and, landing them at Hong Kong, can

can pass them through all the regulations of the port as free and contented emigrants, which it is said, whether truly or not, can be done in a neighbouring port, then his Excellency would admit the force even of the reasoning which argues from abuses elsewhere, to the necessity for protection against them where they do not exist, even at the sacrifice which you suggest.

12. No doubt there was formerly here a want of sufficiently direct responsibility in the agents employed, and a remissness in the manner in which, in some instances, they delegated their duties to subordinates. This elicited deservedly severe notice from Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners in a Despatch laid by his Excellency before the Legislative Council, and it was to correct those defects that the recent Ordinance was introduced. Therefore, the moment seems ill chosen for protesting against all emigration, before it can be proved that the reforms in progress are ineffective, or that emigration from here cannot, under adequate regulations, be carried out in a manner beneficial to the emigrant and his employer. That object is far too important to all concerned to be abandoned prematurely or on light grounds.

13. It would also appear to have escaped your attention, that to close this port to all Chinese emigration would be running counter not merely to Imperial legislation, but apparently to the action and wishes of the Chinese Government, which, in the Convention made at Peking last year with the British and French Ministers has shown its willingness to promote emigration on sufficient guarantees being given for the moral and physical well-being of the emigrants.

14. In a Despatch of Prince Kung, dated 15th March, last year, whilst declaring that the emigration from Macao is wholly unauthorised by the Chinese Government, his Highness renders a just tribute to former benevolent efforts of the British Government to promote the welfare of the labourer, and expressly notifies Chinese sanction of coolie emigration, even to countries with which China has no treaty relations, if Great Britain could pay proper attention to the coolies sent there.

15. I am desired to mention these circumstances as showing the improbability of the Chinese Government wishing to close emigration from a port in a British Colony, where the willingness of each emigrant to abide by his contract, and where all the circumstances by which he was induced to enter into a contract can be strictly and will be honestly investigated.

16. Possibly it is desirable for this Government to possess further powers, with a view to furnishing more complete guarantees to the Chinese Government of the character of emigration from Hong Kong, and that it should assimilate its action more closely to that sanctioned by the Chinese Government in the conduct of emigration from Chinese Treaty ports. This would, in his Excellency's opinion, have been a more judicious because a more practicable object to aim at than the impossible enactment advocated in your memorial, which by going too far misses that which may be attainable.

17. It would, no doubt, greatly assist his Excellency in protecting emigrants, if he possessed a power of prohibiting the emigration of coolies from this port unless the terms of their contracts afforded reasonable cause for considering them fair to the emigrant, and a uniform form of contract might perhaps be settled on terms more just to the planters than that adopted by the Peking Convention, which has caused nearly all honest and open emigration to cease, and has thrown the trade into the hands of unscrupulous parties, who care nothing for the Chinese Government or their Convention, thus actually increasing the evils which it was intended to suppress.

18. It might also be useful that the Governor here should have a power to prevent emigrant vessels clearing for any country where there might be reasonable ground for anticipating from past experience that the emigrant would not meet kindly treatment or receive a fair reward for his labour—or where, in fact, he would probably be regarded more as a chattel or slave than as a man possessing rights, which the laws and usages of the country to which he was emigrating, would enable him to enforce.

19. His Excellency, therefore, in transmitting your memorial, has suggested to Her Majesty's Government, that a field for useful inquiry and reform is open in the above direction, and in doing so has felt that he was really adopting the means most calculated to advance practically the interests of both labourer and employer, which in all parts of the world have so mutual a dependence on one another, that any legislation which does not take into account what is due to both can be beneficial to neither.

20. His Excellency further believes that he has thereby adopted the only course open to him for securing the object equally desired by him and by you, namely, the greatest amount of justice and benefit attainable for the emigrant.

I have, &c.

To

(signed)

Henry John Ball,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Honourable Chief Justice Smale.

The Honourable James Whittall, M.L.C.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

RETURN of EMIGRANTS from *Hong Kong* to the undermentioned Places, for the Years 1861 to 1866 inclusive.

YEARS.	San Francisco.				Australia.				Vancouver's Island.				British West Indies. (Hired.)				Bombay. (Hired.)			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1861 - - - - -	7,096	622	5	11	2,799	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	1,921	348	16	12	-	-	-	-
1862 - - - - -	7,266	264	-	2	977	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1,450	417	28	15	-	-	-	-
1863 - - - - -	7,169	3	146	2	348	-	4	-	137	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1864 - - - - -	2,929	-	112	-	851	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,370	-	-	-
1865 - - - - -	2,501	-	102	-	970	-	24	-	1,416	-	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1866 - - - - -	2,130	4	146	-	1,148	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - - -	20,091	893	511	15	7,093	-	48	-	1,553	-	56	-	3,371	765	44	27	2,370	-	-	-
* TOTAL Adults to each Country - - -	30,247				7,117				1,581				4,171½				2,370			

YEARS.	Tahiti. (Hired).				Dutch West Indies. (Hired.)				Honolulu. (Hired.)				Borneo. (Hired.)				Labuan. (Hired.)				Java. (Hired.)			
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1861 - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1862 - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1863 - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1864 - - - - -	337	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1865 - - - - -	698	-	-	-	356	120	17	-	421	97	9	-	62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1866 - - - - -	-	-	-	-	594	203	28	-	258	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	105	39	18	2	436	-	-	-
TOTAL - - -	1,035	-	-	-	950	323	45	-	679	97	13	-	62	-	-	-	105	39	18	2	436	-	-	-
* TOTAL Adults to each Country - - -	1,035				1,295½				782½				62				154				436			

* Two children are equal to one adult.

Total of adults paying their own passages - - - - - 38,945
 Total of adults leaving as hired labourers - - - - - 10,306½
 Grand Total of adults leaving Hong Kong from 1861 to 1866 inclusive - - - - - 49,251½

Hong Kong, 9 July 1867.

H. S. Thomsett, Harbour Master and Emigration Officer.

— No. 3. —

(No. 117.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor Sir *R. G. MacDonnell*, C. B.

No. 3.

The Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos to
Governor Sir R.
MacDonnell, C.B.

23 Sept. 1867.

* Page 3.

Sir,

Downing-street, 23 September 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 316* of the 28th June, enclosing an Ordinance, No. 6, of 1817, "For better securing the health of emigrants in Chinese passenger ships clearing from Hong Kong."

You also enclose a memorial from Chief Justice Smale and Mr. Whittall, in favour of a total prohibition of emigration from the Colony under contracts for service, and in your Despatch, No. 317,† of the 5th July, you transmit your reply to that memorial.

† Page 10.

With regard to the Ordinance, I observe that Section 14 empowers the Colonial Surgeon to substitute, in certain cases, a scale of medicines and medical comforts for that prescribed by the Imperial Passengers Act. Section 18 empowers the Emigration Officer to vary, with the approval of the Governor in Council, the Schedules B and C in the Imperial Act; and Section 19 empowers the Governor in Council to make bye-laws (amongst other things) for giving effect to Colonial Ordinances relating to Chinese passenger ships, and for better carrying into effect the provisions of the Imperial Act.

On these sections I have to remark that when the Imperial Legislature has authorised the Colonial Legislature to deal in a particular manner with matters extending beyond the ordinary scope of colonial legislation it is questionable how far the Colonial Legislature is competent to deal with these matters in any but the prescribed way. And it can scarcely be doubted that the Legislature is not at liberty to delegate the power delegated to itself of altering an Act of Parliament.

It would have been quite competent for the Local Legislature to embody in the Ordinance itself (that being the mode prescribed by the Imperial Legislature) any alterations in the regulations or in the scheduled forms or in the medical or other scales laid down in the Act; but as that course has not been followed, no medical scale proposed by the Colonial Surgeon, unless proclaimed by the Governor, or any change by the emigration officer in the forms, B and C, or any bye laws made by the Governor in Council relating to matters which the Act requires to be dealt with by Ordinance, would be valid.

On this account, therefore, I am unable to advise Her Majesty to confirm the Ordinance, No. 6, of 1867, but on your making the requisite amendments of the law in respect to the clauses referred to, I shall be prepared to submit it for Her Majesty's confirmation in pursuance of the 2nd section of the Chinese Passengers Act. The arguments of Messrs. Smale and Whittall are, as you observe, founded principally on the abuses which prevail in the emigration from Macao to foreign countries. It is not necessary to reproduce and discuss them, because as Her Majesty's Government is at this moment negotiating a convention with the Chinese Government for regulating the emigration under service contracts of Chinese labourers to our West Indian Colonies, it is not likely that a proposition for the total abolition of the system would be entertained; neither would it be convenient to discuss the propriety of conducting that emigration from Hong Kong instead of from Canton.

In your reply you appear to have sufficiently answered the arguments of the memorialists.

You, however, throw out for consideration, whether the Colonial Legislature should not prohibit the emigration of Chinese entering into contracts unless on conditions similar to those imposed by the Convention for emigrants from the Treaty ports, and whether the Governor should not be invested with authority to revise and modify all contracts and to prohibit the emigration of hired labourers,

labourers, under any circumstances, to Havannah or to other places, where he might have good reason for regarding the emigrants as being cruelly or unfairly treated.

I am of opinion that the consideration of the first of these questions should be postponed until the pending negotiation on the subject of the Convention is concluded. The second point involves the exercise of a very delicate responsibility.

As regards our West Indian Colonies, which import hired Chinese labour, the contracts of service are incorporated in Colonial laws, which have been carefully considered by the Home Government before they received the assent of the Crown. It would be unnecessary, therefore, as well as inexpedient, to invest in any Governor of Hong Kong a supervising power over those contracts. As regards contracts to be enforced in Foreign States, your Government appears to me to possess already all the powers that could profitably be exercised by a Colonial Government.

By the 6th clause of Schedule A to the Imperial Act, the Emigration Officer is prohibited from giving his clearing certificate until he shall have mustered the passengers and ascertained, to the best of his power, that they understand whither they are going, and comprehend the nature of any contracts for service which they have made; and if the contracts are "unfair, or if there is any reason to suspect that fraud or violence have been practised in the collection or embarkation (of the emigrants), he may detain the ship, and if he thinks fit, may order all or any of the passengers to be re-landed." A copy or an abstract of the contracts must be appended to the certificate of the Emigration Officer, which must state that he has inspected the contracts, and considers them reasonable, and that no fraud appears to have been practised in collecting the emigrants.

The power to prohibit absolutely the emigration from Hong Kong of hired labourers to Havannah or any other place where emigrants are supposed to be unfairly used, is one so large and so likely to give rise to international questions and difficulties, that Her Majesty's Government prefer to retain it in their own hands.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

COOLIE EMIGRATION.

COPIES of MEMORIAL to the Governor of *Hong Kong* from the Chief Justice of *Hong Kong* and the Honourable Mr. *Whitall* on COOLIE EMIGRATION; and, of Reply of the Governor thereto.

(*Mr. William Edward Forster.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
11 June 1868.

427
MR. EYRE (JAMAICA).

Return to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 6 June 1868;—for,

“COPY of so much of a LETTER from Lord *Carnarvon* to Mr. *Eyre*, dated the 7th day of February 1867, as relates to the Payment of Costs of any CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS against him.”

Colonial Office, }
23 June 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from the Right Honourable *C. B. Adderley*, M.P., to *Edward Eyre*, Esq., dated Downing-street, 7th February 1867.

“WITH regard to the enormous expenditure which you state must be incurred in any attempt adequately to meet the various charges which have been or which may be brought against you on account of the several measures adopted by you during the recent insurrection in Jamaica, I am to inform you that, although Her Majesty’s Government do not think themselves at liberty to adopt the responsibility of defending you in any of these cases, they hold themselves free to consider how far the evidence adduced in the course of the proceedings may justify them in reimbursing you any reasonable expenses which you may have incurred.”

COPY of so much of a LETTER from Lord
Carnarvon to Mr. *Eyre*, dated 7 February
1867, as relates to the Payment of Costs of
any Criminal PROCEEDINGS against him.

(*Mr. Taylor.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
25 June 1868.

429

CONVICTS (FREMANTLE).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 12 March 1868;—for,

“COPIES or EXTRACTS of a LETTER from the HOWARD ASSOCIATION, forwarding a MEMORIAL from the CONVICTS at *Fremantle, Western Australia*, alleging the infliction of various cruel and illegal PUNISHMENTS by the Governor:”

“And, of any REPORT received from Governor HAMPTON on the subject.”

Colonial Office, }
27 July 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

— No. 1. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Chairman of the Howard Association to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

50 Cornhill, London, E.C.

13 September 1867.

My Lord Duke,

ON behalf of the Howard Association (an organization instituted for the promotion of the best methods of penal treatment and criminal prevention), I respectfully solicit your Grace's attention to the accompanying copy of a Petition which has been forwarded to this Association from the Convict Establishment at Fremantle, Western Australia, and also to the copy of another petition, addressed originally to the Legislative Council of the colony.

It appears, from the former, that the appeal to the Colonial Council (a body necessarily consisting chiefly of Government officials in a Crown colony), has not, in the view of the Petitioners, received just attention; and hence this Association has been applied to for aid in bringing the subject before Her Majesty's Home Government and the British public.

I am not able to state how far the very serious complaints contained in these petitions may be justified or extenuated by the circumstances; but the allegations are of such a character that, I respectfully submit, they ought to claim an immediate and thorough investigation on the part of the Home Government.

I therefore earnestly solicit your attention to the subject, and remain,

My Lord Duke,

Most respectfully yours,

R. Fowler,

Chairman of the Committee.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

ALLEGED CRUELITIES and ILLEGAL ABUSES in the CONVICT ESTABLISHMENT of WESTERN AUSTRALIA. Encl. 1, in No. 1.

To the Editor of the “Star.”

Sir,

5 September 1867.

THE many evils and abominations of the old transportation system have led to its abandonment in all the Australian colonies, except in the remote district of Western Australia. But it appears from the accompanying documents (just received by the Howard Association)

Association) that there is too much reason to infer a continuance of the horrible abuses of former years in the latter locality. It is, at any rate, very important that Her Majesty's Government should promptly institute a searching investigation (conducted by disinterested and impartial commissioners) respecting the truth, or otherwise, of the very serious charges contained in these petitions. They have arrived in England too late for parliamentary attention this year, but their consideration will at once be brought under the notice of the Government.

The Howard Association has no desire to palliate crime, or to interpose between offenders and their just legal punishment; but no humane Englishman can pass unheeded such an appeal as the accompanying one, which, by its very nature and terms, bears a strong *prima facie* evidence of being founded upon real suffering and oppression. The past experiences of remote penal settlements, especially of Port Macquarrie, Botany Bay, and Norfolk Island—"the ocean hell"—have manifested an ever-recurring tendency to cruelty and torture on the part of certain officials, virtually rendered almost irresponsible by reason of their being invested with supreme power in such isolated and very distant localities.

If the longer of the two petitions seems to have been penned under some feelings of a personal animus (not very violently expressed, however), it is not to be wondered at, provided the complaints are warranted by the facts.

But, under any circumstances, this matter demands the prompt attention of the Government and of the British public.

Yours, &c.,
Wm. Tallack.

COPY of MEMORIAL to the HOWARD ASSOCIATION.

Sir,

Fremantle, Western Australia, 26 June 1867.

As I am informed that the Howard Association is an institute designed to ameliorate the condition of prisoners under certain circumstances, I am induced to bring the facts of the enclosed memorial under your notice, with a view to drawing some effective attention to its prayer. It was forwarded, on its date, to the authorities to whom it is addressed, but received no acknowledgment, and I can say, from personal observation, that the facts are not stated nearly so badly in the petition as they exist in reality, for the petitioners would be afraid to have drawn the attention of colonial authority to any but the mildest complaint.

The board of visiting justices are not now admitted to the prison; so that prisoners can not complain if they would, and the reason is, I believe, in accordance with the statement that the governor is trying to drive those unfortunate men to desperation, so that their time can be lengthened for any offence they commit, and leave a longer claim on the Home Government for their support (for it is upon Home Government funds the whole community here depends), and leave no means untried to have it extended.

Prisoners' sentences are lengthened here to periods which are quite astonishing, it being quite a common thing for one magistrate to sentence a prisoner or ticket-of-leave holder to years' hard labour for trifling offences, and suspicion is held to be conclusive evidence of guilt. And it also appears that there are great numbers of convicts in the colony whose original sentences have long ago expired, but they are yet held as reconvicted prisoners, and are supported on Imperial funds.

Hoping you will have the kindness to bring the subject under the notice of the proper authorities, or the press,

To W. Tallack, Esq.,

I am, &c.,
A Warder in the Convict Establishment.

Secretary to the Howard Association,
5, Bishopsgate-street Without, London, E.C.

P.S.—I am employed at the establishment, but don't wish my name published, as it would assuredly injure me here.

[The name and address are given in confidence.]

COPY of PETITION from the CONVICTS of Western Australia.

"Fremantle, Western Australia,
December 1866.

"To the Honourable the Members of the Legislative Council,

"The petition of the convicts of Western Australia humbly sheweth,—

"That the regulations for the discipline of convicts in this colony have been superseded by certain cruelties of Governor Hampton's own construction, which are neither consistent with humanity nor authorised by British Law.

"That this treatment appears to be a reproduction of the stringent system formerly in use in the southern colonies, and which has been long since abolished by the Home authorities as being the source of, instead of diminishing, crime, as well as being repugnant to the spirit and feelings of a more civilised age.

"That

"That his Excellency and his son have been, and are now, carrying out a system of merciless punishments and secret cruelties with an avowed object to prevent absconding. But the public are aware that, before the present system came into existence, absconding was almost unknown; and it is to escape those punishments that the prisoner is driven to chance the hopeless dangers of the bush.

"That the convicts in Western Australia attach no blame to the settlers of the colony, from whom they always received great kindness and encouragement.

"And the convicts in Western Australia respectfully beg to submit that their own conduct in the colony and towards the settlers has been spoken of as being in every way satisfactory, and was made a subject of special notice when the settlers petitioned for the continuation of transportation; and this knowledge of the settlers' goodwill has frequently restrained such men as ill-treatment has driven to the bush, and was always instrumental in preventing those acts of violence and predatory outrage which generally marked the career of their prototypes in the south.

"That the disciplinary part of the convict affairs are carried on in that inquisitorial and private way which keeps them from public notice; and as any attempt to impeach the system would meet with the greatest severity, the present course is respectfully adopted to test the question as to whether it is known to, or sanctioned by, the settlers.

"That the grievances complained of consist in the practice of the following punishments, viz.:—1. The severity of the corporeal punishment, the description of weapon used to inflict it, and the number of lashes given, which are double the number allowed by law. 2. Close confinement in dark, unhealthy cells, for indefinite periods, without bedding, air, or exercise, and on bread and water diet of one pound per diem. 3. The extension of servitude prior to discharge upon ticket of leave. 4. Imprisonment in separate confinement on short rations, for terms exceeding nine months. 5. Absence of any settled or authorised scale of prison rules.

"That, in reference to the first of these punishments, it is generally well known that the number of lashes has been long ago restricted, by Act of Parliament, to 50, and with a specified "cat," and this only upon rare and particular occasions, whereas the governor, in nearly every case, orders 100 lashes for frivolous disciplinary offences.

"That imprisonment in dark cells, on bread and water, is only extended to seven consecutive or 28 alternate days, during which time there is at least one hour per diem allowed for exercise, whereas the usual custom at Fremantle is 28 consecutive days (and has been carried as far as 30, 40, and 50), without light, air, or exercise, of which numerous instances might be quoted; but the following case, which occurred in August last, may be taken as a type of the remainder. Eight men were charged with attempting to run away from North Fremantle Bridge; the magistrate did not ask them if they had anything to say, but informed them that he had been directed by his Excellency to sentence them to two years' hard labour in irons; after which the Acting Comptroller-General stood up and read the following additional sentence from the governor for the same offence:—(These men are to be kept in dark cells, on bread and water till the surgeon reports that they can bear it no longer without danger to their lives.)

"That the home authorities, having appointed a commission to examine into the state of convict discipline in England, their report, which was based upon medical and other accurate testimony, went to show that separate confinement, even in light airy cells, cannot be extended beyond nine months without permanent injury to the constitution. Accordingly, that description of imprisonment was legally fixed at nine months; whereas, at Fremantle, it is frequently extended to any indefinite term over and above nine months, in addition to being kept in heavy irons.

"That the convicts in Western Australia are debarred from getting redress for wrongs, however grievous, by a rule which states that any complaint made to a visiting justice or other authority, if either frivolous or groundless, will lead to severe punishment; and, as a complaint can always be brought under one of these heads by a denial or palliation on the part of an official, the unfortunate prisoner is afraid to complain or find fault with his rations when inferior in quality and short in quantity; he may be assaulted, handcuffed, ironed, starved, and confined in dark dungeons without redress; for what convict would have the hardihood to complain, while a prison official, with the fear of the governor before him, stood forward to deny it or put forward the usual plea of bad character in justification?

"That the convicts in Western Australia are not labouring under a false impression. They are well aware of their position in relation to society; they know that they have broken the laws of their country to a greater or lesser degree; they are well aware that they have to undergo a special punishment, and are perfectly satisfied to atone for their offences by ready obedience and submission to the law. But when they find that this law and justice—which the statutes of England hold out to its meanest subjects—are subverted by petty tyranny and replaced by acts of oppression and individual power, without control, they must adopt some efficient method to escape from a hopeless system of slavery which was never known to or contemplated by that law.

"That the history of British dominion in the colonies, whether in the extirpation of southern coloured races, the ryot mysteries of India, the convict assignment system in Van Dieman's Land, or the grinding governorship of Jamaica, has been marked from time to time by that abuse of power which springs from arbitrary, isolated rulership, without supervision or control, but has generally ended in those violent catastrophes which have frequently convulsed those lands, and held up the boasted liberty and justice of England to ridicule till the very name of her colonial enterprise, and the reputation of her lieutenants, have

have become the butt of foreign journalism and the criticised byword of the less civilised quarters of the world.

"That the convicts in Western Australia feel convinced that the governor's policy in using oppressive measures is to purposely increase crime towards the close of transportation, so that he could parade it in his returns next year, with a view to impress the home authorities with the necessity of keeping a large protective force in the colony, as the stepping-stone to a large subsidy. It is with this view his Excellency takes the trouble to superintend the execution of his arbitrary measures himself; and it is with this view that his son, in the capacity of Acting Comptroller-General, is constantly rummaging the establishment, like an assistant warder, seizing upon the duties of Mr. Leffroy, and directing the infliction of unnecessary and excessive punishments, which he knows the superintendent is too honourable as a gentleman, and too humane as a Christian, to tolerate or practise of his own accord; and it is with this view that every petty occurrence is magnified into a subject of importance, even when built upon no better foundation than barefaced falsehood, of which the following is a specimen:—In October last a paragraph appeared in the *Inquirer* newspaper stating that 'The Acting Comptroller General had a narrow escape from a convict who attempted to assault him with a pick, at North Fremantle, and that the villain would no doubt have carried out his intention if the movement had not been noticed by a pensioner, who covered him with a revolver.' As nothing of the kind ever occurred, or was ever heard or thought of, until seen in the paper, it was evidently published by that gentleman himself for the double purpose of showing the vicious tendency of the men, and the great risk undergone by himself in attending to them in his self-appointed capacity, and to show the public how much he is doing to pave the way to large Government supplies. But the public is reminded that the false pretence held out to the Home Government is at the expense of the health and lives of hundreds of men whom cruelty has driven to desperation.

"Governor Hampton only cares to keep them secure for his time; they will then have answered his purpose when his responsibility ceases and he is far from this country. But in addition to a heavy Government grant, obtained at the expense of oppression and bloodshed, he will also bequeath the terrible legacy of an overcrowded convict population in a struggling colony without means of support, and with injuries to remember which time can never change.

"That the convicts in Western Australia are constantly branded by the newspapers previously alluded to, as 'villains,' 'scum of the earth,' 'cowards,' &c., but such epithets are to be expected from a Government organ whose free press notions are confined to the suggestions of official supporters, however devoid of honour or of truth. There are of course bad and good in all classes, and the bad is naturally expected to preponderate in prison, but the public are aware that amongst the convicts in this colony there are at least 400 soldiers who shared in Inkerman and Balaklava, but were subsequently sentenced to penal servitude by court-martial for such offences as disobedience, assaults on superiors, and desertion. Surely these men are not cowards; and as for being desperadoes their attempts at absconding have been always confined to such cases as have been brought on by the ill-usage complained of, but have never extended to the injury of the public. If the governor were asked why he introduced the Botany Bay Code, he would say, 'To prevent absconding.' This ever ready reply he knows has a tendency to satisfy public inquiry; but he would omit to point out that absconding is at present about eighteen hundred per cent. in excess of what it was under Colonel Henderson, when such punishments were not in existence.

"That the convicts in Western Australia have taken various humble and respectful means to bring their position under notice. They have applied to the governor, and have written to the Perth journals. But such complaints have been invariably suppressed. They do not make any unreasonable request; they do not want any special indulgences; but they do want to be dealt with as men, not as brute beasts; in a word, they want to be treated in accordance with the laws of England, and are resolved to test the question whether there is any redress for wrongs inflicted on an imperial prisoner in a penal settlement; with such view they humbly submit the present application to the most competent authority, in common with the interests of the colony. But in the event of its not being entertained with a view to enquiry and amendment, the case, together with the former petitions and the present application, will be forwarded to the home authorities and the press.

"In conclusion, the convicts in Western Australia express a hope that these measures may not be regarded in either the light of insolence or of intimidation. They have been, and are, using every humble and peaceful means to procure redress; they have not as yet deserved or tried to earn the name of 'desperadoes,' and the other epithets applied to them by colonial journalism and official reports. It is true they cannot be probably worse off than they are, but it will be time enough to lay some claim to the name of 'outlaw' if their final petition is rejected; and if the British public of the nineteenth century decides that a colonial governor may revive the barbarous customs of the middle ages, in the dungeon, the chain, and the private torture—if they find that the penal servitude, which was held up as being the science of reformation, hands them over to an uncontrolled oppression, to wrongs without redress, and cruelties without cause, so that their very existence is a burden, and their future without hope—it will then be time enough to solve the question as to the effective merits of submission or resistance.

"But the convicts in Western Australia most humbly hope that the honourable members
of

of the Legislative Council will, in the meantime, cause such inquiry to be made into convict discipline in this colony as will place it on its proper footing.

"And the convicts of Western Australia will, as in duty bound, ever pray, &c."

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Encl. 2, in No. 1

THE TREATMENT OF CONVICTS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor of the "Star."

Sir,

IN the correspondence and the petition on West Australian matters which you publish to-day, I am not at all surprised at seeing matters represented as they are; and had Colonel Henderson remained at the head of the convict establishment in Western Australia, such accounts would never have been seen or heard of. Dr. Hampton was the chief ruling spirit at Tasmania under the old horrible system there long ago carried out in that colony; and, as every person is prejudiced to their old ways, there could have been no worse person found than Dr. Hampton to have succeeded Colonel Henderson. Colonel Henderson is the pupil and successor of the late Colonel Jebb, and his plan has always been to win the men back by kind treatment rather than brute force. I too well know by experience what some of the colonial magistrates (West Australian in particular) are, and as for them to deal out a hundred lashes to a poor fellow, deserve it or not, is a matter of little consequence to them. I know Mr. Lefroy, the chief superintendent, well, and served as a warder under him; and if he is capable of such cruelty as is stated in the petition, he is an altered man to what he was. The refractory cells where men are confined are almost a solid block of masonry, and extremely badly ventilated; and I have seen many a stout fellow, put there for seven days on bread and water, pulled down to an inconceivable amount of flesh in that time, with an hour's exercise per day. The huge convict prison stands on a hill of sand, under which is white freestone, with a tropical sun pouring down on it, frequently 90 to 100 degrees in the shade, and to be days or weeks confined on West Australian bread, and such water as is there procurable, it being impregnated so strongly with magnesia as that is, must be horrible indeed. From 10 years' experience under Colonel Henderson as a convict warder in West Australia, and what I heard and read of the doings at Tasmania, of which establishment Dr. Hampton was a chief official, I fully believe the warder's statement, and think the complaints in the petition to be well founded, and ought to be immediately seen to. If I might suggest an idea, I would recommend the Government to superannuate Dr. Hampton for his past convict colonial services, and either hire or purchase for him an estate in the neighbourhood of Governor Eyre, as they would, no doubt, be good neighbours, and could talk over old Australian affairs together.

I am, &c.

5 September.

An Old West Australian Convict Screw.

— No. 2. —

(No. 212.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Hampton* to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Government House, Perth,
23 December 1867.

My Lord Duke,

IN the "Evening Star" newspaper, dated the 5th September 1867, a letter is published signed "William Tallack," forwarding a copy of a memorial to the Howard Association from a warder in the convict establishment at Fremantle, and a copy of a petition to the Legislative Council from the convicts in Western Australia.

2. * * * I deem it right to make a full report to your Grace on the allegations in the letter and so-called memorials.

3. Mr. Tallack in his letter alludes to "many evils and abominations of the old transportation system in the Australian Colonies;" he states that "there is too much reason to infer a continuance in this Colony of the horrible abuses of former years," and asserts, "that the appeal in the enclosures to his letter bears strong *prima facie* evidence of being founded upon real suffering and oppression;" he adds, "that the past experiences of remote penal settlements have manifested an ever-recurring tendency to cruelty and torture on the part of certain officials."

No. 2.

Governor Hampton to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

23 Dec. 1867.

4. The most convenient form of reviewing "the very serious charges" brought forward by the Howard Association, will be to show by facts that Mr. Tallack's *prima facie* evidence is worthless and untrue.

5. Mr. Tallack's allegation that the feelings of personal animus exhibited in the longer of the two petitions are not very violently expressed, is obviously a matter of opinion best tested by a reference to the petition itself, in which it is asserted "that the regulations for the discipline of convicts in this Colony have been superseded by certain cruelties of Governor Hampton's own construction, which are neither consistent with humanity nor authorised by British law." "That His Excellency and his son have been and are now carrying out a system of merciless punishments and secret cruelties;" and "that Governor Hampton has obtained a heavy Government grant at the expense of oppression and bloodshed."

6. I cannot concur with Mr. Tallack in his opinion that such statements are not very violently expressed, but I am prepared to prove that these and all similar charges against me are either untrue or gross perversions of the truth, almost more reprehensible than the direct and deliberate falsehoods published under the auspices of the Howard Association.

7. The sources from which these imaginary charges are represented to have emanated, ought to have excited grave doubts regarding the authenticity of the alleged facts, involving the reputation of a public officer in the highly responsible position of Governor of a Crown Colony at a distance of 14,000 miles from England, and have induced the Howard Association to pause before publishing such scandalous calumnies without affording me an opportunity of confuting them.

8. The confidential correspondent of the Howard Association in his memorial, dated 26th June 1867, states that the convicts' petition was forwarded, on its date, to the authorities to whom it is addressed.

9. I enclose all the information I have been able to obtain after careful enquiry on this point, and can state positively that the memorial was not presented to the Council, nor even heard of by me until I received last month a copy of it in the "Star" newspaper.

10. It is stated in the warder's communication to the Howard Association, that the Board of Visiting Justices are not now admitted to the prison, so that prisoners cannot complain if they would.

11. The Board referred to consisted of the stipendiary magistrates of Fremantle and Perth, and the superintendent of Water Police. The visits of the two latter to the prison seriously interfered with their legitimate duties without producing any useful result whatever; therefore, under the authority of the local ordinance, 12 Vict. No. 7, section 6, I appointed the resident magistrate at Fremantle to be the only stipendiary visiting justice of this prison. The next section of the same ordinance renders it "lawful for any and every justice of the peace, as often as he may think fit, to enter and examine the said prison," and provides that "refusing admittance or rendering any obstruction to him shall be a misdemeanor."

12. The Chief Justice also has power to visit and examine the prison at any time when and how he may think fit, and the Comptroller General, as principal inspecting officer, frequently affords all the prisoners opportunities for making complaints to him regarding their treatment. I visit the prison generally about twice in each month, and, notwithstanding the charges so recklessly preferred against me in the "Star" newspaper, venture to state emphatically from my own observation that the inmates have no reasonable ground of complaint, and that they are treated strictly according to law and regulation.

13. The warder's statement that I am trying to drive these unfortunate men to desperation is not worthy of notice.

14. With regard to his allegation as to the astonishing length of the sentences passed by magistrates, I have to observe that such lawful sentences are not in any way influenced by me, and are properly binding, although the original sentences

sentences may have expired. Whether re-convicted men continue to be "supported on Imperial funds" or not is regulated by instructions from Her Majesty's Government. It is not true, as asserted by the soi-disant warder, that suspicion is held to be conclusive evidence of guilt in dealing with these offenders.

15. I shall now proceed to notice *seriatim* the five grievances complained of in the petition of the convicts; the first being the alleged severity of the corporal punishments, restricted, according to the petitioners, by Act of Parliament to 50 lashes, with a "specified cat," and this only upon rare and particular occasions; whereas, as they assert, "The Governor in nearly every case orders 100 lashes for frivolous disciplinary offences."

16. This mendacious statement is entirely without foundation, for I have never in any instance ordered even a single lash to be inflicted during the 27 years I have been concerned in the management of convicts; indeed, on the contrary, I have invariably discountenanced the use of such a form of punishment.

17. The enclosed extracts, from reports made by me as Comptroller General in Tasmania, show that I succeeded in abolishing corporal punishment in that Colony. I regret that a similar attempt on my part in Western Australia has not been successful.

No. 2.

18. On my arrival here, on the 28th February 1862, I at once took steps to restrain the infliction of corporal punishment on convicts, and only three were flogged during the first 23 months of my administration of this Government; but at the end of that time, under the circumstances explained in the enclosed copy of a letter from the resident magistrate at Fremantle, I was most reluctantly induced to modify my opposition, although my opinion remained unchanged.

No. 3.

19. The letter referred to, and the accompanying copy of another from the late acting police magistrate of Perth, confirm what I have now reported as to my disapproval of the infliction of corporal punishment in Western Australia.

No. 4.

20. I am glad to be able to add that only two convicts have been flogged in this Colony since the 13th October 1866. Fifty lashes were inflicted on each.

21. The statement of the petitioners that the number of lashes has been long ago restricted to 50 does not apply to Western Australia, as the local ordinance, 16 Vict. No. 18, section 2, renders it lawful for a justice or justices of the peace to sentence a male offender to be punished by whipping, not exceeding 100 lashes.

22. The enclosed return shows the names of all the convicts who have been whipped in this Colony, the description of cat used, and in each instance the authority for such punishment.

No. 5.

23. The Governor has no power to "order" a convict to be flogged; and certainly, so far as I am concerned, no inclination.

24. The accompanying report from the Comptroller General, shows what the existing arrangements are regarding solitary confinement, and that the petitioners' descriptions of the 2nd, 4th, and 5th of their alleged grievances are impudent misstatements of facts.

No. 6.

25. The case of eight men who absconded from North Fremantle Bridge having been selected by the petitioners as a "type" of numerous instances of alleged ill-treatment inflicted upon convicts in this Colony, it appears desirable to review the case referred to.

26. On the 23rd October 1865, five ticket-of-leave holders, employed in private service in the Vasse District, stole a ship's boat, and after sailing along the coast to the southward for some days were apprehended by the police, tried before the bench of magistrates of the district, and, with the exception of James Schlegel, each sentenced to six years penal servitude, the first 12 months of which to be in irons. Schlegel was sentenced to eight years penal servitude, chiefly because he was a ringleader in the affair.

27. By my orders these men were released from irons in June 1866, when they had completed only two-thirds of the period they had been sentenced by a competent tribunal to work in chains.

28. On the 10th August 1866, three of the Vasse absconders, with five others, seized a boat, while employed in a gang on the public works at North Fremantle, and escaped from custody : they were speedily apprehended, tried before the resident magistrate, sentenced by him to two years hard labour in irons, and ordered to be placed in dark cells on bread and water, until the medical officer reports that the continuance of that form of treatment would be injurious to their health; and they were released from it accordingly during the following month.

29. These are the eight men referred to in the memorial, and their punishment was neither excessive nor illegal; they had all been in the chain-gang under magisterial sentences, part of which had been remitted by me; and Schlegel and two others had previously attempted to escape from the Colony while at large on ticket-of-leave; and most assuredly it ought not to be said that any of them were "driven to chance the hopeless danger of the bush, to escape merciless punishment, or secret cruelty."

30. The difficulty of dealing with such men may be gathered from the following facts connected with the history of one of them.

31. James Grey, in the year 1862, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment for being illegally at large under fire-arms, to two years for robbery, one for stealing, and three for bushranging with fire-arms; on the 17th July 1863 he absconded; on the 5th October 1864 he again absconded; and on the 10th August 1866, some time after he had been released from irons, he was concerned with Schlegel and six others in seizing the boat at North Fremantle.

32. The third alleged grievance as to the extension of servitude prior to discharge upon ticket-of-leave can be disposed of very briefly.

33. In the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch, No. 17, dated 1st April 1863, I was informed that it was proposed to revise the too lenient rules under which tickets-of-leave and conditional pardons were granted to convicts in Western Australia, and the subsequent long correspondence resulted in the Secretary of State directing that the extension complained of by the convicts should be adopted. It is almost needless for me to state that the scale thus authorised has been strictly adhered to, and that I can easily imagine such a very salutary change is regarded as a grievance by the petitioners.

34. The general expressions of mere opinion in the petition, as to the tendency of my administration of convict business and supposed views regarding the treatment of prisoners do not seem to require any notice. I think it necessary, however, to state that I do not, as alleged in the petition, take the trouble to superintend the execution of my measures myself, nor in any way personally to interfere with the working out of the details of the discipline of the convicts, although I retain the disposal of their labour, even in the most minute particular, entirely in my own hands.

35. The petitioners assert that the Acting Comptroller General is constantly "rummaging" the establishment; in other words, and in point of fact, as I can state from my own knowledge, zealously, efficiently, and successfully performing his duty.

36. They also assert in the same paragraph that he caused a barefaced falsehood to be published in the "Inquirer" newspaper as to a convict having attempted to assault him. The Acting Comptroller General did not, either directly or indirectly, cause anything to be published in any newspaper on the subject; and the enclosed copy of a communication from the officer commanding the troops, shows that the barefaced falsehood in this instance, is the allegation of the petitioners, that "nothing of the kind ever occurred, or was ever heard or thought of, until seen in the paper."

37. As I have no control over the press, I abstain from making any comment on

on the petitioners' complaints regarding the hard names by which they say they are designated in the local newspapers.

38. The petitioners' threats as to what they may do "to resist uncontrolled oppression and cruelties without cause," are simply ridiculous.

39. It is due to the large majority of the convicts who are not represented by the alleged petitioners, I should inform your Grace that the only really true statements in the memorial, are that the conduct of the convicts has been generally satisfactory, and that they have received great kindness and consideration from the settlers.

40. The rule quoted in the petition as to convicts being punished for making either frivolous or groundless complaints, is in every point of view fair and reasonable, and is also in accordance with the law for restraining the circulation of the groundless and slanderous complaints of the Howard Association.

41. Two days after the Howard Association's charges appeared in the "Evening Star," an anonymous letter alluding thereto, was published in the same newspaper, and again at the end of seven days another letter signed "John Frost."

42. It is stated in the first, that I succeeded Colonel Henderson as head of the convict establishment in Western Australia, to the serious detriment of that branch of the public service, and great fault is found with the site and plan of "the huge convict prison at Fremantle," as well as the quality of the water used therein.

43. Colonel Henderson selected the site, prepared the plans, and superintended the construction of the prison many years before I arrived in the Colony, and he was succeeded by Captain Newland as Comptroller General, an office I have never held in Western Australia. The water in use in the prison is unusually pure. Stout fellows are not pulled down in the manner stated by seven days' bread and water in the refractory cells, which are quite as well ventilated and roomy as those generally used for similar purposes in England.

44. As to John Frost's statements with regard to what happened to him at Port Arthur in the year 1840, I have only to observe that I did not take charge of the convict department in that Colony until the end of 1846, when he was employed in private service in Hobart Town, therefore, if even great cruelties were, as he states, committed at Port Arthur, while he remained there, his deceitful attempt to attribute the existence of such alleged cruelties to me is worthy of being classed with the libels published by the Howard Association.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. S. Hampton, Governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

My dear Sir,

THERE is published in the "Evening Star," English newspaper, a memorial professing to be addressed by the convicts in this Colony to the Legislative Council, and detailing all sorts of imaginary grievances and oppressions. A portion of the Memorial is reproduced in the "Herald," Fremantle Paper. Upon inquiring respecting its origin, we have been informed that the original was sent to you for presentation to the Council. Will you kindly let the Governor know if this is the case, and, if so, who sent it to you, and what you did with it.

E. Hamersley, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, Perth,
21 November 1867.

Encl. 1, in No. 2.

Yours truly,
(signed) G. E. Hampton.

My dear Sir,

Pyrtou, 23 November 1867.

SOME time back I received a Memorial from the Convict Establishment at Fremantle, professing to be the copy of a circular sent to each of the Members of Council, setting forth a number of grievances. I do not think there was a request in it that I should present it to the Council; what I did with the Memorial I know not; though full of grievances, it was, I considered, only what might be expected from men in confinement. Doubtless the discipline of a prison is grating to the feelings of any men, and it is greatly to be deplored that there is any necessity for anything of the sort; but what is to be done? Nothing would satisfy these men but to be at liberty to war against their fellow-creatures; therefore, however much to be deplored, their subjection to the discipline of a prison can only be looked upon as the lesser of two evils. Such being the case, I did not consider myself called upon to move in the matter.

G. E. Hampton, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Truly yours,
(signed) *E. Hamersley.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

Encl. 2, in No. 2. EXTRACT from REPORT of Comptroller General, Tasmania, dated 18 July 1849, transmitted with Governor Denison's Despatch, dated 27 September 1849.

"25. The demeanour and conduct of the convicts, the manner in which labour is now performed, and the general tone pervading the whole convict class in Van Diemen's Land, are strongly indicative of a change for the better; but, perhaps, one of the most decided proofs of the alteration which has been effected in the system of convict discipline in this Colony, is the recent diminution in the amount of corporal punishment."

"26. The records have not been kept in such a form as to admit of a very minute comparison on this point; but I gather from various returns which have been compiled at different periods that in the year 1845, with an average of 24,827 male convicts in the Colony, 18,536 lashes were inflicted on 501 of these men. In 1846 there was but little change. In 1847, with an average of 25,103 men, 382 received 15,750 lashes. In 1848, the average number of male convicts, being 23,072, the number flogged was only 76, punished by 3,040 lashes. In the first six months of this year, with an average of 20,617 male convicts in the Colony, the number flogged has been 11, on whom 652 lashes were inflicted; and in a short time, when the means of enforcing solitary and separate confinement are still further improved, and the task-work system well administered, it will be nearly, if not altogether, unnecessary to inflict corporal punishment on any convict in Van Diemen's Land."

EXTRACT from REPORT of Comptroller General, Tasmania, dated 5 August 1851, transmitted with Governor Denison's Despatch, dated 21 August 1851.

"17. By Return, No. 14, it will be seen that corporal punishment has been only resorted to during the last six months in the cases of six boys, who received in the aggregate 216 lashes, experience having established the inefficacy of the lash as a means of enforcing discipline when compared with the other modes of punishment, for the carrying out of which adequate means are now provided at each of the various convict establishments, which, without brutalizing the sufferers, are far more efficacious and deterring in their effects."

EXTRACT from REPORT of Comptroller General, Tasmania, dated 7 February 1853, transmitted with Governor Denison's Despatch, dated 3 March 1853.

"22. Taskwork continues to be a most efficient auxiliary in the administration of all parts of convict management in this Colony; so much so that, with the aid of improved buildings, uniformity of system, and careful supervision, stringent discipline has been maintained without the infliction of a single lash in Van Diemen's Land during the period of this report."

EXTRACT from REPORT of Comptroller General, Tasmania, dated 20 January 1854,
transmitted with Governor *Denison's* Despatch, dated 13 February 1854.

"17. The punishments inflicted have been generally hard labour, solitary and separate confinement, for longer or shorter periods, according to the nature and degree of the offences in each instance, as well as the previous character of the offenders, but in no case has the lash been used, not a single convict having been flogged in Van Diemen's Land since April 1851; a change in the nature of the secondary punishments used in this Colony, the extent of which may be gathered from the fact that in the year 1838, 58,204 lashes were inflicted on 1,984 men, and that in 1846, 481 convicts received 17,406 lashes.

Enclosure 3, in No. 2.

My dear Barlee,

Fremantle, 28 November 1867.

WITH reference to the subject of our conversation yesterday, and in compliance with your request, I have no hesitation in stating, that on my first taking office in Fremantle, as visiting magistrate of the Convict Prison, his Excellency was decidedly opposed to corporal punishment, and so expressed himself to me. Encl. 3, in No. 2.

I myself am by no means an advocate of such system, and it was only when the Comptroller General, Captain Newland, and I, found that disciplinary offences were on the increase, and an insubordinate spirit was manifesting itself among the prisoners, that we conjointly advocated the expediency of recurring, in extreme cases, to a system which, the prison authorities stated, had been successfully carried out before the advent of his present Excellency, and to the discontinuance of which, the increase of prison offences was, in their opinion, attributable.

F. P. Barlee, Esq.,
Colonial Secretary, &c.

I am, &c.
(signed) Chas. Symmons,
Visiting Magistrate,
Fremantle Prison.

Enclosure 4, in No. 2.

My dear Sir,

Perth, 30 November 1867.

IN compliance with the request, contained in your note to me of to-day's date, that I should tell you what are my impressions as to the Governor's views in regard to the infliction of corporal punishment on prisoners during the time I was acting as police magistrate in Perth, I beg to tell you, that during that time, from the 15th of December 1863, to the 1st March 1866, I did, under the provisions of the Local Ordinance, 16 Vict. No. 18, Sect. II., sentence several men to be flogged. Encl. 4, in No. 2.

To my certain knowledge, his Excellency was averse to the practice. All sentences of lashes were, in the first instance, submitted for approval to the Governor, who directed whether or not they should be carried out.

They were, so far as my recollection now serves me, limited to cases where convicts were convicted of offences short of rape; of assaults inflicting wounds or causing pain or bodily injury, and of escapes by "old hands," when inexperienced novices were induced to escape in their company.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Yours, &c.
(signed) G. W. Leake.

Enclosure 5, in No. 2.

CONVICT DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

RETURN of all CONVICTS who have received CORPORAL PUNISHMENT in *Western Australia* since the arrival of the first Convict Ship, showing the date of the Infliction thereof, the Register Number, and Name of the Offender, the Offence, the number of Lashes Inflicted, the authority for, and the Instrument with which such Punishment was Inflicted.

DATE.	Register Number.	NAME.	OFFENCE.	Number of Lashes Inflicted.	Authority for such Punishment.	Instrument with which such Lashes were Inflicted.	REMARKS.	
1851 :								
16 January	132	Pidgeon, J.	Abseonding from the prison	50	R. Mc B. Brown			
24 June	13	Smith, W.	Assaulting an officer	50	- ditto			
19 August	449	Buckley, D.	Stealing from fellow-prisoner	50	W. H. Mackie and Captain Bruce.			
15 Nov.	890	Angel, Eli	Entering a store and stealing	36	G. Eliot and W. P. Clifton.			
12 Dec.	549	Williams, T.	Abseonding from his district	50	T. Brown, and L. R. Elliott.			
1852 :								
2 Feb.	224	Sullivan, W. W.	Threatening language to superintendent.	36	Visiting Magistrate			
21 "	614	Screech, J.	Stealing a waistcoat	50	T. N. Yule			
19 March	376	Drury, M.	Fighting on the public works	36	Visiting Magistrate			
19 "	1185	Bryan, P.	- ditto - ditto	36	- ditto			
28 June	1171	Craig, J.	Highway robbery with violence	50	R. G. Mears			
31 August	1148	Wood, W.	Perjury	50	W. H. Mackie and L. Elliott.			
22 Sept.	1469	Rouse, G.	Abseonding from convict establishment.	37	Richard Brown and Thomas Brown.		Was sentenced 50 lashes, but 13 remitted surgeon.	
24 "	1148	Wood, W.	- ditto - ditto	50	- ditto			
20 October	1216	Barleymount, R.	Insubordination	50	Visiting Magistrate			
23 "	878	Woolcot, H.	Insolence to surgeon, superintendent, &c.	50	- ditto	A "cat" similar in weight and size to those used on board a man-of-war.		
6 Nov.	534	Nico, .	Assaulting W. Brett	50	- ditto			
27 Dec.	894	Tomlin, W.	Striking chief warder	50	- ditto			
27 "	961	Brown, T.	- ditto - ditto	50	- ditto			
27 "	932	Hindley, J.	- ditto - ditto	50	- ditto			
27 "	202	Polson, J.	- ditto - ditto	50	- ditto			
1853 :								
12 Feb.	183	Javan, G.	Burglary	50	Charles Symmons and J. Sillifant.			
15 March	1495	McDonald, A.	Beating and ill-using a fellow-prisoner.	49	Visiting Magistrate		Was sentenced to 50 lashes.	
15 "	1371	Smith, W.	Striking his fellow-prisoner	49	- ditto		- ditto.	
9 April	1585	Foster, T.	Assaulting fellow-prisoner	100	- ditto			
27 "	180	Ives, R.	Stealing bread from his master	50	T. N. Yule, and L. R. Elliott.			
27 "	1175	Taylor, J.	Stealing from his employer	50	- ditto			
3 August	183	Javan, G.	Abseonding	74	Thomas Brown, R. Mc B. Brown, and G. Clifton.		Was sentenced to 100 lashes.	
8 October	2555	Dougherty, J.	- ditto	48	Visiting Magistrate			
6 Dec.	1475	Ashmole, T.	Abseonding from the prison and stealing.	100	Thomas Brown, R. M. B. Brown and G. Clifton.			
6 "	183	Javan, G.		100				
6 "	1707	Bradmore, J.		100				
6 "	808	Jackson, T.		100				
1854 :								
7 January	2463	Caffrey, J.	Irregular and disorderly conduct.	36	Visiting Magistrate	A "birch,"		
10 "	2470	Kennedy, M.	Records defective	100	Records defective			
10 "	2492	Rowan, J.		100				
10 "	2157	Scully, P.		100				
10 "	2235	Gorman, M.		100				
10 "	2419	Elligate, J.	Breaking prison and stealing	100	S. W. Viveash	A "cat" similar in weight and size to those used on board a man-of-war.		
10 "	2602	Smith, J.		100				
20 "	2539	Ryan, J.		100				
28 "	2414	Condran, P.		100				
8 Feb.	2125	Enright, M.	Mutinous conduct	75	Visiting Magistrate			
9 "	1475	Ashmole, T.	Assaulting fellow-prisoner	100	- ditto			
24 Sept.	2724	Snell, J.	Assaulting A. W. Weir	100	- ditto			
12 Dec.	1585	Foster, T.	Setting fire to hay-rick	100	R. G. Mears		Was sentenced to 100 lashes.	
12 "	619	Moss, R.	Assaulting an officer	100	Visiting Magistrate			
12 "	3122	Williams, G.	Stealing bread	100	- ditto			
			Assaulting an officer	100	- ditto			

Date.	Register Number.	NAME.	OFFENCE.	Number of Lashes Inflicted.	Authority for such Punishment.	Instrument with which such Lashes were Inflicted.	REMARKS.	
1855 :								
15 March	1319	Anderson, W. -	- - - - -	100	Visiting Magistrate -	A "cat," similar in weight and size to those used on board a man-of-war.		
15 "	1088	Cornish, J. -	- - - - -	100	- ditto -			
15 "	1479	Davis, J. -	- - - - -	100	- ditto -			
15 "	3063	Bailey, A. -	Absconding from the public works.	100	- ditto -			
15 "	1318	McNamara, E. -	- - - - -	100	- ditto -			
15 "	2357	Lacey, S. -	- - - - -	100	- ditto -			
15 "	3177	Bain, G. -	- - - - -	100	- ditto -			
29 Jan.	3134	Bibby, R. -	Making false charge against an officer.	100	- ditto -			
6 Oct.	3616	Corton, G. -	Attempting to assault fellow prisoner.	a birch-ing.	- ditto -	A "birch".		
16 "	3667	Dawson, J. -	Absconding from the prison	100	- ditto -	A "cat," similar in weight and size to those used on board a man-of-war.		
16 "	3340	Ade, H. -	- ditto - ditto -	100	- ditto -			
25 "	3521	Arnold, J. -	- ditto - ditto -	100	- ditto -			
17 Sept.	1402	Garn, H. -	} Highway robbery with violence {	100	T. N. Yule -			
17 "	1409	Davis, F. -		100	- ditto -			
1856 :								
18 March	3207	Cobden, W. -	Menacing a prisoner -	36	Visiting Magistrate -	A "cat," &c., as on board a man-of-war.		
19 Jan.	3616	Corton, G. -	Filthy habits -	a birch-ing.	- ditto -		A "birch."	
15 Aug.	3915	Curtis, G. -	Violently assaulting officer	40	- ditto -	}		
4 Nov.	3616	Corton, G. -	Habitual idleness -	50	- ditto -			
22 "	3908	Thompson, W. -	Insubordinate and violent conduct.	36	- ditto -			
1857 :								
22 Jan.	4096	Morris, D. -	Insubordination and insolence -	36	Chas. Symmons -	}	Was sentenced to 100 lashes.	
18 Aug.	3775	Ralph, J. -	Attempting to escape -	75	Visiting Magistrate -			
18 "	3828	Bird, G. -	Attempting to commit suicide -	29	- ditto -			
19 "	1518	Stoyle, T. -	Absconding -	100	- ditto -			
3 Sept.	2555	Dougherty, J. -	- ditto -	25	- ditto -			
1858 :								
25 Feb.	3592	Taylor, J. -	Threatening language to an officer.	36	Visiting Magistrate -	A "cat," similar in weight and size to those used on board a man-of-war.		
21 June	4288	Gardner, J. -	Absconding from Perth Prison -	50	T. N. Yule -			
21 "	4526	Brown, J. -	- ditto - road party -	50	- ditto -			
25 "	4540	Wall, P. -	- ditto - Perth Gaol, &c.	100	S. W. Viveash -			
25 "	4517	Stewart, W. -	- ditto - ditto -	100	- ditto -			
24 July	2091	Farrell, J. -	Absconding -	50	Visiting Magistrate -			
24 "	2555	Dougherty, J. -	- ditto -	50	- ditto -			
24 "	4327	Renton, W. -	- ditto -	36	- ditto -			
11 Sept.	4074	Holmes, J. -	Striking a warder -	36	- ditto -			
29 "	4873	Burkenshaw, W. -	Assaulting 4964, J. Brown	50	- ditto -			
29 "	4286	Bashford, G. -	- ditto - 4787, N. Kelly	50	- ditto -			
19 Nov.	4574	Ward, T. -	Insolence -	100	- ditto -			
19 "	4879	Garnett, G. -	- ditto -	50	- ditto -			
1859 :								
16 Feb.	2354	Maughan, T. -	Attempt to abscond -	36	Visiting Magistrate -		A "cat," similar in weight and size to those used on board a man-of-war.	
7 May	5330	McDonald, J. -	Threatening language to A.W. Kain	50	- ditto -			
11 Aug.	4974	Cator, R. -	Attempt to assault the Superintendent.	50	- ditto -			
16 "	1265	Knight, W. -	Absconding from public works -	100	- ditto -			
16 "	2555	Dougherty, J. -	- ditto - ditto -	100	- ditto -			
18 "	2354	Maughan, T. -	- ditto - ditto -	100	- ditto -			
23 "	4642	Count, B. -	} Breaking out of place of confinement, &c. {	100	T. N. Yule -			
28 "	4286	Bashford, G. -		100	- ditto -			
6 Oct.	5285	Smith, W. -	Threatening language to magistrate.	36	Visiting Magistrate -			
15 "	4962	Knight, W. -	Attempting to commit an unnatural crime.	50	- ditto -			
6 Dec.	5378	Clarage, J. -	Insolence and disobedience of orders.	24	T. N. Yule -			
10 "	3074	Collins, J. -	Absenting himself from his station	36	- ditto -			
1860 :								
21 Jan.	5089	Wilson, G. -	Assaulting Mr. Flindell -	36	T. N. Yule -	}		
1 March	4902	Stevens, H. -	Disobedience of orders -	24	Visiting Magistrate -			
1 "	4265	Williams, J. -	Threatening language to A. W. McMahon.	36	- ditto -			
14 "	4074	Holmes, J. -	Assaulting A. W. Kain -	36	- ditto -			
26 "	5099	Parker, J. -	Insolent to Private Wm. Ennis	24	T. N. Yule -			
14 May	5121	Webb, W. -	Breaking into steward's store -	50	Visiting Magistrate -			
14 "	5234	King, E. -	- ditto - ditto -	50	- ditto -			
15 "	3991	Buckley, J. -	Assaulting 4873, W. Burkenshaw	50	- ditto -			
15 "	4609	Henry, M. -	- ditto - ditto -	50	- ditto -			
22 June	5067	Hamilton, C. -	Insubordination -	24	- ditto -			
9 July	4902	Stevens, H. -	- - - - -	100	- ditto -			
9 "	4324	Woolway, W. -	} Attempting to abscond from the prison. {	100	- ditto -			
9 "	4865	Vowles, T. -		100	- ditto -			
9 "	1438	Dowden, F. -	- - - - -	100	- ditto -			
21 Nov.	2091	Farrell, J. -	Absenting himself from his place of residence.	100	T. N. Yule -			

PAPERS RELATING TO

DATE.	Register Number.	NAME.	OFFENCE.	Number of Lashes inflicted.	Authority for such Punishment.	Instrument with which such Lashes were inflicted.	REMARKS.
1861:							
23 Feb. -	3844	Spiller, W. - -	Committing an indecent assault on a child.	100	H. W. Viveash - -	A "cat" similar in weight and size to those used on board a man of war.	
4 March -	5270	Bushell, T. - -	Threatening to strike A. W. Kain	100	Visiting magistrate - -		
24 July -	3991	Buckley, J. - -	Abseonding from the new luna-tic asylum party.	36	- - ditto - -		
24 " -	5565	Connor, J. - -		36	- - ditto - -		
6 Sept. -	3719	M'Nulty, A. - -	Insubordination - - -	36	- - ditto - -		
28 Nov. -	3121	Orricks, W. - -	Indecently assaulting a child	100	T. N. Yule - -	A "birch."	
22 May -	local	Frankleton, W. -	Wilfully destroying Government property.	To be well birched.	Visiting magistrate - -		
1862:							
13 Jan. -	5886	Lockett, D. - -	Abseonding - - - -	50	- - ditto - -	A "cat" similar in weight and size to those used on board a man of war.	
7 Feb. -	4791	Brown, B. - -	Indecent assault - - -	50	- - ditto - -		
19 March -	5307	Reilly, B. - -	Fraudulent intercourse with a female, as a prisoner.	100	- - ditto - -		
29 March -	4502	Nash, J. - -	Assaulting W. Griffin - -	36	- - ditto - -		
1863:							
30 March -	6573	Duffy, O. - -	Assault on P. W. Paisley - -	100	- - ditto - -	A "cat" similar in weight and size to those used on board a man of war.	
1864:							
22 Feb. -	6256	Costello, J. - -	Throwing pickaxe, &c. at warder	100	- - ditto - -	A "regulation Cat" made similar to a model received from England.	
22 March -	5896	Britton, A. - -	Mutinous, and obscenely insult- ing to the visiting magistrate.	100	- - ditto - -		
22 " -	6396	Osborne, W. - -	Abseonding and resisting lawful apprehension.	100	G. W. Leake - -		
18 May -	5887	Lossom, C. - -	Abseonding from schooner "Perseverance."	100	- - ditto - -		
18 " -	6802	Wootton, B. - -	Abseonding from Perth prison -	25	Visiting magistrate - -		
17 June -	7298	Willinan, R. F. -	Abseonding from the chain gang party.	100	G. W. Leake, V.M. - -		
9 July -	7423	Green, E. - -	Abseonding from the works -	100	Visiting magistrate - -		
1 Aug. -	5244	Graham, W. - -	Absenting himself from party -	100	- - ditto - -		
1 " -	5666	Watkins, W. - -	Abseonding from works -	100	- - ditto - -		
1 " -	5886	Lockett, D. - -	- - - -	100	- - ditto - -		
1 " -	7451	Harding, W. - -	- - - -	100	- - ditto - -		
26 " -	4420	Docherty, J. - -	- - - -	36	- - ditto - -		
26 " -	7718	Harrison, E. - -	- - - -	36	G. W. Leake - -		
26 " -	6633	Love, C. - -	- - - -	36	Visiting magistrate - -		
2 Sept. -	6396	Osborne, W. - -	- - - -	50	- - ditto - -		
2 " -	7723	Hollman, A. - -	- - - -	50	- - ditto - -		
2 " -	6389	McCarthy, M. - -	- - - -	50	- - ditto - -		
2 " -	6820	Burnside, W. - -	Cutting their leg irons -	50	- - ditto - -		
2 " -	7751	Kemp, G. - -	- - - -	50	- - ditto - -		
2 " -	6505	Brown, J. - -	- - - -	50	- - ditto - -		
10 Oct. -	2354	Maughan, T. - -	Abseonding from North Fremantle	50	- - ditto - -		
10 " -	5811	Smart, W. - -	- - ditto - - ditto -	50	- - ditto - -		
10 " -	7165	Jones, T. - -	- - ditto - - ditto -	50	- - ditto - -		
10 " -	7309	Williams, S. - -	Abseonding from North Fremantle, and obscene language in court to superintendent.	50 & 50	- - ditto - -		
10 " -	4080	Grey, J. - -	Abseonding from North Fre-	50	- - ditto - -	"Regulation cat."	
10 " -	6498	Anderson, J. - -	mantle.	50	- - ditto - -		
10 " -	6739	Strickland, G. - -	- - - -	50	- - ditto - -		
24 " -	7467	Jones, T. - -	Assaulting warder Ditch -	25	F. P. Barlee - -		
23 Nov. -	6849	Cooley, R. - -	Assaulting surgeon and P. W. M'Kenzie - - -	36	Visiting Magistrate - -		
14 Dec. -	7488	M'Donogh, J. - -	Assault and using threatening language.	100	S. W. Viveash - -	"Regulation cat."	
14 Dec. -	8047	Kemble C. - -	Stealing from a barge on the	100	G. W. Leake - -		
14 " -	7342	Brennan, H. - -	river.	100	- - ditto - -		
1865:							
28 Feb. -	7191	Mills, J. - -	Insubordination - - -	100	Sir A. T. C. Campbell	"Regulation cat."	
28 " -	6261	Cockroft, D. - -	- - ditto - - - -	100	- - ditto - -		
8 March -	6580	Evans, J. - -	Assaulting 7646, R. Russell -	50	G. W. Leake and F. P. Barlee.		
8 " -	6730	Smith, J. - -	- - ditto - - ditto -	50	- - ditto - -		
23 " -	5884	Quinn, J. - -	Gross insolence and disobedience of orders.	36	G. W. Leake, V. M. -		
13 April -	5735	Smith, W. - -	Abseonding - - - -	36	Visiting Magistrate -		
19 " -	6887	Hammer, G. - -	- - ditto - - - -	36	- - ditto - -		
19 " -	6842	Cooper, R. - -	- - ditto - - - -	25	- - ditto - -		
26 " -	local	Mercie, G. - -	Assaulting A. W. Harrington -	100	- - ditto - -		
19 May -	6204	Andrews, T. - -	Assaulting a police constable -	100	G. W. Leake - -		
1 June -	3396	Jackson, G. - -	Abseonding from Perth Prison -	100	- - ditto - -		
1 " -	7934	Ballman, J. - -	- - ditto - - ditto -	25	- - ditto - -		
21 " -	5716	Bennett, C. - -	Abseonding - - - -	100	Visiting Magistrate -		
21 " -	7298	Willinan, R. F. -	- - ditto - - - -	100	- - ditto - -		
21 " -	6820	Burnside, W. - -	- - ditto - - - -	100	- - ditto - -		
24 " -	7309	Williams, S. - -	- - - -	100	- - ditto - -		
24 " -	8047	Kemble, C. - -	Cutting their irons and boring through frame of cell window	75	- - ditto - -		
24 " -	8141	Taylor, L. - -	- - - -	50	- - ditto - -		
28 " -	6204	Andrews, T. - -	Illegal possession of housebreaking implements.	100	G. W. Leake - -		
3 July -	7983	Entwhistle, J. - -	Assaulting Elizabeth Parker -	100	L. J. Bayly - -		
27 " -	5330	McDonald, J. - -	Cutting and boring through win-	50	Visiting Magistrate -		
27 " -	7898	Williams, D. - -	dow frame of cell.	50	- - ditto - -		
6 Aug. -	8048	Knapton, E. - -	Abseonding from Bunbury -	50	G. Eliot - -		
19 " -	7932	Brown, W. - -	Assaulting a sentry - - -	100	Visiting Magistrate -		
26 " -	6532	Clarke, M. - -	Assaulting A. W. Durman -	100	Sir A. T. C. Campbell -		
2 Sept. -	3775	Ralph, J. - -	Attempting to break out of cell -	50	Visiting Magistrate -		
5 " -	5666	Watkins, W. - -	- - - -	100	- - ditto - -		
5 " -	6802	Wootton, B. - -	Abseonding from North Fre-	100	- - ditto - -		
5 " -	7859	Smith, J. - -	mantle Bridge.	75	- - ditto - -		

DATE.	Register Number.	NAME.	OFFENCE.	Number of Lashes inflicted.	Authority for such Punishment.	Instrument with which such Lashes were Inflicted.	REMARKS.
1865:							
6 Sept.	7191	Mills, J.	Attempting to abscond, and gross insubordination.	50	Visiting Magistrate	-	
11 "	7913	Lane, R.	Absconding	50	- ditto	-	
1 Oct.	5632	Jones, W.	Cutting cell window	50	- ditto	-	
4 "	7600	Gough, J.	Absconding from Ferguson Road Party.	50	G. Eliot	-	
25 "	8382	Price, E.	Assaulting 7822, J. Price	36	G. W. Leake	-	
26 "	8258	Evans, D.	Assaulting 8266, W. France	60	- ditto	-	
26 "	8259	Esquient, H.		60	- ditto	-	
26 "	8264	France, A.		60	- ditto	-	
1 Nov.	3891	McArdle, B.	Absconding	100	Visiting Magistrate	-	
10 "	7423	Green, E.	Indecent assault on a child	100	G. W. Leake	-	
21 "	7744	Joy, T.	Illegally at large, &c.	50	C. H. Elliott	-	
1866:							
26 Jan.	5632	Jones, W.	Absconding	100	Visiting Magistrate	-	
8 Mar.	Local	Newman, C.	Assaulting probation constable 7968, P. Cahill, at Perth Prison.	36	E. W. Lander, V. M.	-	
16 "	7622	Barratt, A.	Assaulting Superintendent Perth Prison, and Wr. Leary.	36 & 36	E. W. Lander	-	
20 "	7983	Entwhistle, J.	Assaulting Wr. Harrington	100	Visiting Magistrate	-	
20 "	8534	Dudley, H.	Absconding from the River Bar Party	25	- ditto	-	A "Regulation Cat."
20 "	4313	Miller, A.		50	- ditto	-	
2 April	7859	Smith, J.	Insubordination in Chapel	100	- ditto	-	
2 "	8258	Evans, D.	- ditto - ditto	75	- ditto	-	
21 "	7406	Edwards, J.	Absconding	36	E. W. Lander	-	
28 May	5355	Atty, W.	Absconding from North Fremantle.	100	Visiting Magistrate	-	
13 June	5632	Jones, W.	Cutting irons, and hiding with intent to abscond.	50	Visiting Magistrate	-	
26 "	7979	Edwards, J.	Violently assaulting a native woman.	36	E. W. Lander	-	
12 July	7673	Davis, B.	Assaulting A. W. McDaide	25	Visiting Magistrate	-	Was sentenced to 50 lashes.
17 "	8047	Kemble, C.	Cutting cell window, &c.	50	- ditto	-	
20 Oct.	8462	White, T.	Assaulting A. Wr. Hill	50	W. P. Clifton	-	
31 "	5565	Connor, J.	Assaulting chief warder	100	Visiting Magistrate	-	
31 "	7268	Scott, T.	Assaulting A. Wr. Eccleston	100	- ditto	-	
13 "	Local	Newman, C.	Insolence, insubordination, and mutinous conduct.	36	E. W. Lander, V. M.	-	
1867:							
1 Feb.	8526	Curran, J.	Assaulting Warder McGregor	50	Visiting Magistrate	-	
23 May	8867	Howard, C.	Threatening Wr. Hill	50	G. Eliot	-	

SUMMARY.

YEAR.	Total Number of Prisoners Flogged.	Total Number of Lashes Inflicted.	Average Number of Convicts Maintained by Government.
1851	5	236	380
1852	15	695	588
1853	12	870	1,033
1854	15	1,411	1,146
1855	14	1,300	1,050
1856	5	162	1,157
1857	5	175	1,043
1858	13	758	1,372
1859	12	782	1,004
1860	15	880	565
1861	7	408	879
1862	4	236	983
1863	1	100	1,347
1864	32	2,194	1,526
1865	40	2,824	1,440
1866	17	1,105	1,713
1867	2	100	1,816 (to 30 September 1867).

Henry Wakeford,
Comptroller General.

Encl. 6, in No. 2.

Enclosure 6, in No. 2.

Comptroller General's Office, Perth,
13 December 1867.

Sir,

IN compliance with the verbal request of your Excellency, I have the honour to make the following remarks upon a portion (quoted below) of a petition published in an English newspaper, and purporting to have been addressed by convicts in Western Australia to the Legislative Council of that Colony, in December 1866.

"That the grievances complained of consist in the practice of the following punishments, viz.,

"1. The severity of the corporeal (*sic*) punishment, the description of weapon used to inflict it, and the number of lashes given, which are double the number allowed by law."

"2. Close confinement in dark unhealthy cells, for indefinite periods, without bedding, air, or exercise, and on bread and water diet of 1 lb. per diem."

"3. The extension of servitude prior to discharge upon ticket-of-leave."

"4. Imprisonment in separate confinement on short rations for terms exceeding nine months."

"5. Absence of any settled or authorised scale of prison rules."

1. The return of corporal punishments already furnished to your Excellency, will sufficiently answer this "grievance." It will be seen that the cat which has been employed since the early part of 1864, has been made on the model of one sent from England as a pattern. The maximum number of lashes which may be inflicted under the local law, is 100. As a magistrate, in the years 1862 and 1863, I abstained wholly from passing sentences of lashes upon convicts. I believed that if such sentences had been passed, the lashes would not have been inflicted, owing to the strong aversion well known to be felt by your Excellency to corporal punishment. During the six months which have elapsed since I entered upon the duties of my present office, and ending at about the date of the return, it will be seen that corporal punishment has only once been inflicted.

2. In some cases it has been considered necessary to place prisoners in the refractory cells on bread and water. Some of those cells are dark, but not "unhealthy." They are no doubt far from comfortable, but in cases where it is necessary to punish prisoners by placing them in refractory cells, the effect of studying their comfort would be to neutralise their punishment.

3. The periods to be served by convicts prior to their discharge upon ticket-of-leave, has formed the subject of correspondence with the Secretary of State.

4. This grievance has, I believe, no foundation in fact.

5. The rules affecting the prisoners are clear and distinct. They are founded upon those in force in English prisons, and are so well known among the convicts generally, that I do not believe there is one of them, of even less than ordinary intelligence, who is not well acquainted with the rules, and of the manner in which they affect his particular case.

I have, &c.
(signed) Henry Wakeford,
Comptroller General.

His Excellency the Governor.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 7, in No. 2.

Encl. 7, in No. 2.

My dear Governor,

Perth, 4 December 1867.

IN forwarding the accompanying copy of a letter from Captain Finnerty, relative to a remark on the annexed extract, from petition by convicts, I wish to point out to your Excellency how utterly at variance the true version of the case is to that contained in the latter part of the extract, where it states that nothing of the kind "ever occurred, &c. &c."

I can only say with regard to this convict petition, that from a fortnight after I arrived in the colony, I was so thoroughly impressed with your aversion to corporal punishment that on the many occasions on which I sat on the bench here, during the first four or five months of 1864, when flagrant cases (belonging to the bond class) were brought before us, and in my estimation richly deserving corporal punishment, that punishment was not resorted to, merely because we fully understood that such a sentence would not receive your Excellency's approval.

Believe me, &c.
(signed) *Robert H. Crampton.*

Enrolled Force Office, Fremantle,
25 October 1866.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that at about eight o'clock this morning while the chain gang were being inspected in the prison yard, one of the gang struck a warder, who returned the blow; the sergeant of the escort would have shot the prisoner if he could have done so without killing the warder. The prisoner seeing the danger of his position at once surrendered, as reported to me by Sergeant Atkinson.

I have also to bring under your notice that a prisoner named Connor would, in all probability, have assaulted the acting Comptroller General before he left the quarry.

This prisoner had spoken to the Comptroller, who ordered him away to his work; the prisoner appeared dissatisfied and excited, went to the place where he had been working, took up a pick-axe, and stepped up on the old road. Corporal Clayton's full opinion is, that the prisoner intended to assault the Comptroller with the pick. At this time the Comptroller spoke to the other prisoners, in all five. The Comptroller took a pace or two from where he stood, the prisoner took the same number of paces towards the Comptroller, evidently watching an opportunity. The prisoner looked round, saw that the corporal was aware of his intentions, being close behind him with his revolver cocked, and ready to shoot him the instant he would move to carry out his intentions on the Comptroller. This prisoner, when marched to the establishment, endeavoured to kick warder Gardner; he was secured, and confined in one of the refractory cells. The whole of this occurred between 4 and 5.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

I have, &c.
The Hon. Lieut. Colonel Bruce, (signed) *C. Finnerty*, Captain, S. O. P.,
Commanding the Troops, Perth, W. A. Commanding Enrolled Duty Force,
Fremantle.

(True copy)

Perth, 4 Dec. 1867.

(signed) *R. H. Crampton*, Major,
Commanding the Troops.

My dear Sir,

I RETURN the enclosed Report from Captain Finnerty with thanks, and am much obliged to the corporal for his care. I fully expected Connors would assault somebody, indeed I believe he would have struck Gardiner when he said, "Keep your hands off me," but for my ordering him sharply to go away. I saw him come towards me after taking up the pick, and kept my eye upon him while I was talking to the other men.

Yours, &c.
The Hon. Lieut. Colonel Bruce, &c. &c. (signed) *G. E. Hampton.*
26 October 1866.

(No. 94.)

No. 3.

The Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos to
Governor Hampton.

25 July 1866.

* Page 5.

— No. 3. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor *Hampton*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 July 1868.

I HAVE had under my consideration your Despatch, No. 212,* of the 23rd of December, containing a report on certain representations against the treatment of convicts in Western Australia.

The Howard Association forwarded to this Office and published in the "Morning Star" a letter addressed to the Association by a warder, accompanied by a copy of a document styled a petition to the Legislative Council from the convicts in Western Australia, which petition, it appears by the information now obtained, was never presented to the Council, although it was sent to one or more of its members. Two further letters were afterwards published in the "Morning Star," containing some representations against yourself and your management of the convict system.

I propose to examine in succession the chief allegations in these documents and the answers.

After observing that the facts are not stated nearly so badly in the petition as they exist in reality, the warder affirms that the Board of Visiting Justices are not now admitted to the prison. It appears that by an Ordinance, 12 Vict., No. 7, it is rendered "lawful for any and every justice of the peace as often as he may think fit to enter and examine the said prison;" and further, that "refusing admittance or rendering any obstruction to him shall be a misdemeanour." The complaint on this head appears, therefore, to have been false.

The warder added that prisoners' sentences are lengthened in Western Australia to periods which are quite astonishing. Sentences, however, can only be lengthened by magistrates acting under powers belonging to them by law, and do not depend on the Executive Government.

The petition from the convicts affirms that the regulations for discipline have been "superseded by certain cruelties of Governor Hampton's own construction," which are "not authorised by British law," and that you and your son have been carrying on a system of merciless punishments and secret cruelties, in order to prevent absconding; and then they proceed to sum up the grievances complained of in the following list:—

- 1st. The severity of corporal punishment.
- 2nd. Close confinement in dark cells for indefinite periods.
- 3rd. The extension of servitude prior to discharge upon ticket-of-leave.
- 4th. Imprisonment in separate confinement on short rations for terms exceeding nine months.
- 5th. The absence of any settled prison rules.

On the first of these heads the petition specifies that the number of lashes has been long ago restricted by Act of Parliament to 50, and with a specified cat, whereas the governor in nearly every case orders 100 lashes for frivolous offences. No such Act, however, is specified, and in Western Australia a local ordinance renders it lawful for justices to pass sentences for 100 lashes. The report from Mr. Wakeford shows that the instrument employed is made upon the pattern supplied from England for the purpose. The assertion that you order 100 lashes is, from the nature of the case, inconsistent with the fact, since it does not fall within your province to order any flogging at all, although, doubtless, the sentences passed by justices may require the Governor's confirmation. It is satisfactory, moreover, to observe that from the 13th October 1866, up to the date of your Despatch at the end of 1867, only two convicts had been flogged in Western Australia, the punishment in each case being limited to 50 lashes.

The general complaints under heads 2 and 4, as to undue confinement in dark or separate cells, are not substantiated. Visiting justices and others
having

having authority to sentence to that punishment should take care that, besides the usual and proper provision that it is to cease on a report to that effect from the medical officer, the sentence is to be for a limited term not exceeding 28 days.

As to the extension of the time which must be served before obtaining a ticket of leave, the laxity of the system formerly in force attracted much attention in England as long as five years ago. The Duke of Newcastle, in a despatch of the 1st of April 1863, announced that the too lenient rules on the subject should be revised; and after much intervening correspondence and consideration, Mr. Secretary Cardwell, in two despatches, dated the 26th of June 1865 and 25th of January 1866, sanctioned the adoption of the rules which are now in force.

The Report of the Comptroller, Mr. Wakeford, shows that there exist clear rules founded upon those in force in the English prisons, and well known amongst the convicts. The allegation, therefore, on this head is unfounded.

Having thus reviewed in succession the complaints of the general treatment of convicts, I cannot but notice the completeness of your answers to those allegations which affect yourself personally. Far from being likely to countenance excessive flogging, you point out that, as Comptroller of Convicts in Tasmania, you abolished that punishment altogether, and your objections to corporal punishment in Western Australia are proved by the papers transmitted by you to be well known. It was stated in one of the letters referred to at the beginning of this despatch that you succeeded Colonel Henderson as Comptroller in Western Australia, and then fault is found with the site and plan of the prison. The fact is, however, that you never did become Comptroller of Convicts in Western Australia, and that the prison was constructed many years before you arrived there. The references made to the treatment of John Frost, at Port Arthur in Tasmania, in 1840, could not concern you, since you did not take charge of the Convict Department in that colony until the end of 1846.

I have much satisfaction in observing the complete replies thus furnished by you to the reflections which were attempted to be thrown upon your own personal share, as Governor of the Colony, in controlling the administration of the convict system in Western Australia.

I have, &c.

Governor Hampton,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

CONVICTS (FREEMANTLE).

COPY of a LETTER from the HOWARD ASSOCIATION, forwarding a MEMORIAL from the CONVICTS at *Fremantle, Western Australia*, alleging the infliction of various Cruel and Illegal PUNISHMENTS by the GOVERNOR; and, of the Report received from GOVERNOR *Hampton* on the subject.

(*Mr. Hibbert.*)

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
28 July 1868.*

HELIGOLAND AND HONG KONG.

AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH PLAY ROOMS ARE NOW HELD IN HELIGOLAND,

AND

ORDINANCE (No. 9 of 1867) "TO MAKE FURTHER PROVISION
"FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF ORDER AND CLEANLINESS
"WITHIN THE COLONY OF HONG HONG."

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 1868.

HELIGOLAND.

COPY and TRANSLATION of the CONTRACT of LEASE of the GAMBLING at HELIGOLAND,
agreed upon by the Vorsteherschaft of the Island and Dr. F. Biermann of
Cassel.

Copy of German original.

Zwischen der Landesvorsteherschaft Helgoland's, vertreten durch die Herren Rathmann P. A. Friederichs, Landesältester J. Stoldt, und Kassenmeister P. K. Franz, als Verpächter einerseits, und dem Herrn Dr. F. Biermann aus Cassel, laut Pachtvertrag mit der löbl. Vorsteherschaft Helgoland's d. d. Hamburg, den 17ten November 1855, Mitpächter, laut weiterer Cessionsurkunde des Herrn de Wellens, d. d. Frankfurt, 9ten November 1857, nunmehr alleiniger Pächter der Spielbank auf Helgoland andererseits, ist unter heutigem Datum der erwähnte und bisherige Pachtvertrag, d. d. Hamburg den 17ten November 1855, dahin abgeändert und anderweit endgültig abgeschlossen worden, wie folgt:—

§ 1.

Das von der Vorsteherschaft Helgoland's dem Dr. Fr. Biermann für die Badesaison verpachtete Privilegium zur Spielbank resp. alleiniges Recht zum Hazardspiele auf Helgoland dauert von jetzt an noch dreizehn Jahre, nämlich bis 1^{tem} Januar 1871.

§ 2.

Der jährliche Pacht beträgt die runde Summe von Acht tausend Thaler pr. courant, in ziffern 8,000 Rthlr.

§ 3.

Der Pächter verpflichtet sich diese Pachtsumme in folgenden Termien zu bezahlen:

(a.) Im Jahre 1858—

1. Am 1ten Juli, 2,000 Rthlr.
2. Am 15ten August, 3,000 Rthlr.
3. Am 31ten August, 3,000 Rthlr.

(b.) Für die weiteren Pachtjahre—

1. Am 15ten August, 4,000 Rthlr.
2. Am ende der Saison und spätestens am 15ten September, 4,000 Rthlr.

Wobei jedoch bestimmt wird, dass, wenn in Folge einer höhern Macht die Spielbank gar nicht eröffnet werden könnte, oder im Laufe der Saison geschlossen werden müsste, die noch nicht fälligen Termine der Pachtsumme erlassen, jedoch die bereits bezahlten ohne weitere Rückvergütung an die Landsmannschaft verfallen sein sollen, nur mit

der Ausnahme, dass wenn in den Pachtjahren 1859, und folgenden eine derartige Schleissung zwischen dem 1ten und 15ten August eintritt, Dr. Biermann von der am 15ten August fällig werdenden Rate doch 2,000 Rthlr bezahlt.

§ 4.

Der Pächter verpflichtet sich, wie in bisheriger Weise zur Erhaltung des Lese-Kabinetts während der Dauer der Badesaison, sowie zur innern Ausschmückung des Spielzimmers auf eigne Kosten.

§ 5.

Dr. Biermann verpflichtet sich der Landesvorsteherschaft zur Erhaltung des Seebades als bald ein unverzinsliches Darlehn von 3,000 Thaler vorzuschüssen, welches am 1ten Juli d. J. mit 2,000 Thaler, und am 15ten August mit 1,000 Thaler zurückbezahlt, beziehungsweise auf die Pachtsumme aufgerechnet werden soll.

Für jedes der folgenden Pachtjahre von 1859 an macht sich Dr. Biermann verbindlich, am 1ten März der Landesvorsteherschaft ein solches Darlehen von 2,000 Rthlr. vorzuschüssen, welches je am 15ten August zurückbezahlt, resp. von der fälligen Pacht in Abzug gebracht werden soll.

§ 6.

Dr. Fr. Biermann verpflichtet sich zur Aufrechthaltung der von ihm uebernommenen Verbindlichkeiten am Ende der diesjährigen Saison eine Caution, die nach Auflösung des Pachtverhältnisses zurückbezahlt wird, im Betrage von 8,000 Rthlr. zu liesten, wobei es sich jedoch von selbst versteht, dass wenn Dr. Biermann in verzinslichen Werthpapieren diese Caution stellt, ihm die Zinscoupons verblieben.

Sobald durch Macht die Eröffnung der Spielbank oder deren Fortbetrieb verhindert wird, so wird die Caution an Dr. Biermann auf dessen verlangen zurückgegeben, jedoch bei Wiedereröffnung des Spiels von demselben sofort wieder geleistet.

§ 7.

Für den Fall der Schliessung des Spielbank bleibt der gegenwärtige Pachtvertrag suspendirt, derselbe tritt aber sofort wieder in allen Punkten in Kraft und Gültigkeit sobald die Eröffnung des Spielbank wieder gestattet werden wird.

Im Falle durch höhere Macht die Spielbank eine ganze Saison oder mehrere Jahre ausgesetzt werden muss, in welchem Falle selbstverständlich für die betreffende Zeit keine Pacht zu zahlen ist, verpflichtet sich die Landschaft zur Verlängerung dieses Pachtvertrages unter Aufrechthaltung aller seiner Punkte um eben so viel Jahre als das Spiel ausgesetzt werden musste.

§ 8.

Vor Ablauf der Zeitdauer dieses Vertrags kann weder von seiten der Landschaft eine Steigerung, Erhöhung oder sonstige Beschwerung der Pachtbedingungen, ebensowenig von dem Pächter eine Pachtermässigung in Anspruch genommen werden.

§ 9.

Mit Unterzeichnung dieses Vertrags entsagen biede contrahirende Theile ausdrücklich allen Ausprüchen und Einreden, die durch den nunmehr durch gegenwärtigen substituirten Pachtvertrag d. d. Hamburg, 17ten November 1855, hergeleitet oder begründet werden könnte.

§ 10.

Im Falle des Absterbens des Herrn Dr. Biermann treten seine Erben oder deren Bevollmächtigter in alle Rechte und Verpflichtungen dieses Vertrags.

§ 11.

Herr Dr. Biermann oder dessen Erben bleiben im Falle in die Spielbank von einem Stellvertreter oder unter anderem Namen betreiben lassen wollten, für die Erfüllungen der Contractsbedingungen persönlich verhaftet.

Cassel, am 27ten Mai 1858.

(Gez.)	P. A. FRIEDERICHS, Rthm.
„	J. STOLDT, Landesältester.
„	P. K. FRANZ, Cassenmeister.

(Gez.) Dr. F. BIERMANN.

Herr Dr. Friedrich Biermann zu Cassel, ferner die Herrn Rathmann P. A. Friederichs, Landesältester J. Stoldt, und Kassenmeister P. K. Franz, von Helgoland, dermalen dahin und durch Herrn Regisseur Beiberhofer von hier recognoscirt, haben vorausgehende urkunde als von ihnen gelesen, ueberall genehmigt anerkannt und solche in meiner gegenwart eigenhändig unterschrieben dies beglaubigt.

Cassel, am 27 Mai 1858.

(Seal) (Gez.) STERN,
Stadtgerichts Aktuar, und nach § 9 des
Gesetzes von 31ten October 1848,
zur Ausstellung notarieller Urkunden
autorisirt.

(Translation.)

Between the Landesvorsteherschaft of Heligoland, lessor, represented by—

Magistrate P. A. Friederichs, Elderman J. Stoldt, and Casemaster P. K. Franz, on one side; and Dr. F. Biermann of Cassel, lessee by contract with the Vorsteher of Heligoland, dated Hamburg, 17th November 1855, co-lessee, but by deed of cession of Mr. de Willens, dated Frankfurt, 9th November 1857, sole lessee of the gambling establishment of Heligoland, on the other side; the above former contract of lease, dated Hamburg, November 17th, 1855, has this day been altered and finally settled to the effect that :—

§ 1.

The privilege of the gambling establishment or exclusive right to the games of hazard, let during the bathing season at Heligoland by the Vorsteher of the island to Dr. Fr. Biermann, is to remain in force for the next 13 years; viz., till the 1st of January 1871.

§ 2.

The annual rent is to be 8,000 Prussian dollars, say eight thousand Prussian dollars.

§ 3.

The lessee binds himself to pay the amount of rent by instalments as follows :

(a.) In 1858—

- 1st. On the 1st of July, 2,000 thalers.
- 2d. On the 15th of August, 3,000 thalers.
- 3d. On the 31st of August, 3,000 thalers.

(b.) During all the succeeding years of his lease—

- 1st. On the 15th of August, 4,000 thalers.
- 2d. At the end of the season, latest 15th of September, 4,000 thalers.

With reference to the foregoing it has been agreed, that if, through interference of higher authority, the opening of the gambling should not take place, or if it had to be closed during the season, then such instalments as already have been paid to be forfeited to the Landschaft without any recompense, but the payment of such instalments of the rent as at the time have not become due to be remitted; provided, however, that if in 1859 or any of the succeeding years the gambling were to be shut up between the 1st and 15th of August, Dr. Biermann shall be held to pay 2,000 thalers of the instalment due the 15th of August.

§ 4.

The lessee engages during the bathing season to maintain the reading room in the manner this has been done heretofore, as also to provide the decorations for the inside of the gambling room, at his own expense.

§ 5.

Dr. Biermann engages at once to advance to the Vorsteherschaft, for the protection of the sea bathing, the sum of 3,000 dollars, free of interests; which sum is to be repaid by instalments deducted from the rent, viz., on the 1st of July of the present year 2,000 dollars, and on the 15th of August 1,000 dollars.

During his lease Dr. Biermann engages to advance to the Vorsteherschaft, on the 1st of March of every succeeding year, beginning with 1859, a sum of 2,000 dollars, which sum on every 15th of August is to be repaid by deduction from the rent.

§ 6.

For the good fulfilment of the obligations undertaken, Dr. Biermann engages at the end of the season of the present year to deposit a security of 8,000 dollars, which security is to be handed back to him at the dissolution of the agreement of lease. Should Dr. Biermann render this security in interest-bearing papers, then, as a matter of course, the coupons of interests to remain in his possession.

If by higher authority the opening of the gambling tables, or the continuation of the same, should be prevented, then the above security is to be given back at his request to Dr. Biermann, but will be replaced by him immediately on the gambling being re-opened.

§ 7.

In case the gambling should be stopped this contract of lease will be suspended, but it obtains throughout its force and validity again the instant the re-opening of the gambling should be permitted.

In case the gambling were by higher authority to be discontinued for a whole season, or for several years, in which case naturally during such interval no rent is to be paid, then the Vorsteherschaft bind themselves to prolong this contract of lease in all its parts for such a number of years as the gambling had to be discontinued.

§ 8.

Before the stipulated duration of this contract has expired the Vorstcher cannot raise the rent nor extend any of the conditions of the lease; neither can the lessee claim a reduction in the amount of rent.

§ 9.

Whilst signing this agreement, both contracting parties confessedly renounce all claims and reclamations based on or deduced from the contract dated Hamburg, 17th November 1855, this present contract being substituted for the former of above date.

§ 10.

In case of decease of Dr. Biermann, his heirs, or parties authorized by them, succeed to all the rights and obligations of this agreement.

§ 11.

In case Dr. Biermann or his heirs should have conducted the gambling by a substitute, or under another name, they still remain personally answerable for the fulfilment of the conditions of the contract.

(Signed) P. A. FRIEDERICH, Magistrate.
 „ J. STOLDT, Elderman.
 „ P. K. FRANZ, Casemaster.

(Signed) Dr. F. BIERMANN.
 Cassel, 27th May 1858.

Messrs. Dr. Friedrich Biermann of Cassel, Magistrate P. A. Friederichs, Elderman J. Stoldt, and Casemaster P. K. Franz, the latter three of Heligoland, being present in Cassel, and identified by the Regisseur, Mr. Bieberhofer, they this day came before me and declared to have read the foregoing document, and that throughout they agreed and approved of the same, which in my presence they have certified by affixing their several signatures thereto.

(Signed) STERN,
 (Seal) Aktuar of the Town Council, and by
 § 9 of the Ordinance of the 31st October 1848 authorized to execute legal documents.

Cassel, 27th May 1858.

HONG-KONG.

ANNO TRICESIMO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

SIR RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL, Knight, C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
No. 9 of 1867.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, to make further provisions for the maintenance of order and cleanliness within the colony of Hongkong. [17th June 1867.] Title.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further provision for the maintenance of order and cleanliness in the colony of Hongkong: Be it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows: Preamble.

I. Ordinance No. 8 of 1866 is hereby repealed. Ordinance No. 8 of 1866 repealed.

II. It shall be lawful for the Governor to apply a certain proportion, not exceeding three-fourths, of all fines and penalties recovered in any court to payment of such rewards, bounties, and gratuities as he may from time to time to any member of the police force, or to any constable, for meritorious conduct, zeal displayed, or injury sustained in the execution of his duty, or to such private persons or informers as the Governor may deem deserving of being rewarded for assisting in the detection of crime or the apprehension of offenders. Power given to the Governor to appropriate a certain amount of fines for the payment of rewards to the police and to informers.

III. It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council from time to time to frame such regulations, to be enforced by such fines and penalties as to him shall seem fit, for the removal of nightsoil and the depositing of rubbish, and for the more effectual carrying out of this Ordinance. Such regulations shall be duly published in the Gazette, and from and after such publication to have the same force and effect as if the same had been enacted by an Ordinance duly passed to that effect. Power given to the Governor to frame regulations.

IV. Section XII of Ordinance No. 6 of 1862 is hereby amended by the addition of the words, "with or without hard labour," immediately after the words "three months" in the fifth line of the said section. Section XII. of Ordinance No. 6 of 1862 amended.

V. Section XXI of Ordinance No. 9 of 1862 is hereby amended by substituting for the words "three months," at the end of the said section, the words "six months, with or without hard labour." Section XXI. of Ordinance No. 9 of 1862 amended.

VI. Every male person who subsequently to the commencement of this Ordinance shall be charged with having committed or having attempted to commit, or with having been an aider, abettor, counsellor, or procurer in the commission of any offence which now is or hereafter may be by law deemed or declared to be simple larceny, or punishable as simple larceny, and whose age at the period of the commission or attempted commission of such offence shall not, in the opinion of the court before whom he shall be brought or appear, exceed the age of sixteen years, shall on conviction thereof, whether summarily or otherwise, be liable by the sentence of such Court to be once or twice privately whipped, either instead of or in addition to any other punishment which may now be inflicted for such offence: Provided that such sentence shall specify the number of strokes, which shall in no case exceed twenty, and provided that the instrument used shall be a rattan. Juvenile offenders to be privately whipped in certain cases.

VII. From and after the first day of August 1867 it shall not be lawful for any Chinese to act as a money changer in the colony of Hongkong, unless he has previously obtained a licence to do so from the Registrar General, which licence shall remain in force for one year, and for which the sum of five dollars shall be annually paid to the Registrar General, who shall account therefor to the Colonial Treasurer. Chinese money changers to be licensed.

VIII. Any Chinese who shall carry on the business of or act as a money changer in the colony of Hongkong without having obtained such a licence, or after the expiration of the same, or who shall violate any of the conditions contained in the said licence, shall, on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and not less than ten dollars, and in default of payment to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding three months. Penalty on an unlicensed person acting as money changer.

IX. The provisions of Ordinance No. 9 of 1857, so far as they relate to night passes, shall be deemed and taken to be applicable to Chinese women, except so far as the same may authorize the infliction of any corporal punishment, or exposure in the stocks. Ordinance No. 9 of 1857, so far as it relates to passes, to be applicable to women.

X. The keeping of pigs, or of other animals likely to be injurious to the public health, within the city of Victoria, without a special licence from the Registrar General, is strictly prohibited; and any person who shall be convicted before a justice of the peace of keeping a pig or other such animal in the said city of Victoria shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five dollars, and in default of payment shall be imprisoned for No pigs or other animals injurious to the public health to be kept within the City of Victoria.

any term not exceeding fourteen days, and the said pig or other animal shall also be forfeited.

Adulterated and unwholesome food or liquor, &c. may be seized. Penalty on persons selling the same.

XI. Any person who shall expose or proffer for sale in any house or shop in the colony of Hongkong any liquor, meat, provisions, condiments, or other article of food in any tainted, noxious, adulterated, or unwholesome state, shall, on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, and in default of payment to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding six months; and in case the person convicted shall be a licensed spirit dealer or boarding-house keeper he shall in addition forfeit his licence.

Warrants to search houses and shops may be granted in certain cases.

XII. On information duly made before any justice of the peace by any constable or credible person that there is good reason to believe that any such tainted, noxious, adulterated, or unwholesome liquor, meat, provisions, condiments, or other article of food is exposed or for sale, in any house or shop in the said colony, it shall be lawful for such justice, in his discretion, to grant a warrant to any constable to enter and search any such house or shop by day; and such constable may, if necessary, break open the doors of such house or shop, and seize such liquor or provisions as aforesaid, and detain the same until the owner thereof shall appear before any justice, and if it shall appear to the said justice that the said liquor or provisions are tainted, noxious, adulterated, or unwholesome, he shall adjudge the same to be condemned and destroyed, but if otherwise they shall forthwith be restored to the proper owner. And in case of a conviction, the said justice shall have power to order the offender, to pay in addition to any fine that may be imposed, the costs which have been incurred in the execution of the said warrant.

Power to the Governor to appoint a medical inspector.

XIII. It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint a duly qualified medical practitioner to be the medical inspector of the colony, who shall perform such duties connected with the sanitary state of the colony as the Governor shall direct, and who shall receive such annual salary as may be voted.

Overcrowded lodging houses.

XIV. Whenever the colonial surgeon, the medical inspector, or any two resident medical practitioners, shall certify to any justice of the peace that any house occupied by more than one family is so overcrowded, or is in such a filthy and unwholesome state, as to be dangerous or prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, it shall be lawful for the said justice and he is hereby required to issue a summons against the householder or his agent within the meaning of the "Victoria Registration Ordinance, 1866," by notice affixed to the house, to appear before the said justice, who shall thereupon make such order as he may think fit; and in case any order so made shall not be complied with by such householder or agent as aforesaid within seven days from the making thereof, the said justice may thereupon impose on the person so refusing or neglecting to obey the said order a fine not exceeding fifty dollars and not less than ten dollars, and in default of payment the person so refusing or neglecting to obey the said order may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three months.

Penalty on persons refusing to permit their houses to be inspected.

XV. The said medical inspector shall have power at any reasonable time to enter any house in the colony, and to inspect the condition of the same; any person refusing to permit the said medical inspector to enter and examine any such house shall, on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, be liable to a fine not exceeding ten dollars and not less than five dollars, or, in default of payment, to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding fourteen days.

Penalty on Chinese licensed spirit dealers allowing the instalments of their licence fees to be in arrear.

XVI. Whenever the holder of any licence for the sale of spirituous liquors granted under Ordinance No. 7 of 1858, shall permit any instalment of his licence fee to be in arrear and unpaid, he shall, on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and not less than ten dollars, and in default of payment may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding one month.

Penalty on persons knowingly harbouring Chinese under sentence of deportation.

XVII. Any person who shall knowingly harbor or conceal in the colony of Hong Kong any person under sentence of deportation shall, on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty dollars and not less than ten dollars, or in default of payment to be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding six months.

Gambling.—Governor in Council to frame rules for limitation and control of.

XVIII. And whereas the evils of gambling in the colony are found to be on the increase, notwithstanding the application of the penal laws in force for their prevention, and it is expedient to devise and adopt further measures for the gradual control and ultimate suppression thereof: Be it therefore enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council from time to time to frame and pass such rules, regulations, and conditions as may be deemed expedient for the total suppression, or in the meanwhile for the better limitation and control of gambling in this colony, with power from time

to time to alter and amend such rules and regulations, or repeal the same or any part thereof.

XIX. Any person violating any of the rules, regulations, or conditions to be from time to time framed and passed by the Governor in Council, and published in the Gazette in pursuance of this Ordinance, or any of the conditions imposed thereunder for the better limitation and control of gambling, shall be liable, upon summary conviction before a magistrate of police, to a penalty not exceeding two hundred dollars and not less than twenty dollars, and to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any period not exceeding six calendar months and not less than one calendar month.

Penalty for violating rules of Governor in Council.

XX. It shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, or constable, and also for any person authorized thereto by the Governor, to enter any house, room, vessel, boat, and place, either on land or water, within the limits of this colony, and to arrest therein any person violating or suspected of having within twenty-four hours previous to such arrest violated any such rules, regulations, or conditions as aforesaid, and to seize all instruments of gaming, tables, dice, or other implements used in gambling, and also all monies and securities for money found on such persons, or in such house, room, boat, vessel, and place aforesaid, and all such implements of gambling, monies and securities for money, if proved to the satisfaction of a magistrate of police to have been used or kept for purposes of gambling, shall be forfeited to the Crown; and all persons convicted of violating the rules, regulations, and conditions aforesaid shall, in addition to the forfeitures specified in this section, be liable to be fined in any sum or imprisoned for any period named in the rules to be framed by the Governor in Council under Section XVII.

Powers of justices of the peace, constables, and others.

XXI. The word "gambling," as used in this Ordinance, shall apply to and include lotteries, as well as those known as wai-sing, pak-kop-piu, tsze-fa, as all others.

Word "gambling" to include lotteries.

XXII. All ordinances or portions of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Ordinances inconsistent herewith repealed.

XXIII. All penalties imposed under this Ordinance shall be recovered and may be distributed in the manner provided by Ordinance No. 10 of 1844.

Penalties how recoverable.

XXIV. This Ordinance shall commence and take effect on such day as shall hereafter be fixed by proclamation under the hand of the Governor.

Commencement of Ordinance.

Passed the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, this 17th day of June 1867.

L. D'ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE E. FYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

IMMIGRANTS AND LIBERATED AFRICANS.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 20 February 1868;—*for*,

“RETURN showing the Number of IMMIGRANTS and LIBERATED AFRICANS admitted into each of the *British West India* Colonies, as well as the Places from whence they were introduced, from the Year 1843 to the end of the Year 1857, and in each Year since the 1st day of January 1857, to the end of the Year 1867:”

“Similar RETURN for *Mauritius*:”

“And, RETURN of the Number of those who have RETURNED from each Place in each Year to their own COUNTRIES, and (as far as can be ascertained) the Amount of EARNINGS remitted through Government Agency in their behalf (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 213, of Session 1867).”

Colonial Office, }
20 April 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

(*Mr. Moffatt.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
21 April 1868.

RETURN of IMMIGRANTS and LIBERATED AFRICANS introduced into the *West India Colonies and Mauritius* from the Year 1843 to the end of the Year 1856, and in each Year since the 1st day of January 1856 to the end of the Year 1867, so far as known.

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	J A M A I C A.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL
Great Britain - -	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madeira - - -	379	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leone - -	2,552	-	-	-	-	390	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,942
St. Helena - - -	2,632	-	-	-	47	259	608	533	-	-	-	11	4,482
East Indies - - -	4,550	-	-	-	598	1,523	1,982	542	-	-	-	1,625	10,720
China - - - - -	a 472	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada - - - - -	145	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States - -	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
British West Indies	382	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Havannah - - -	347	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Direct from Captured Slavers.	230	362	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - - -	11,725	362	-	-	645	2,172	2,590	1,075	-	-	-	1,636	20,109
WHENCE EMIGRATING.	B R I T I S H G U I A N A.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL
Great Britain - -	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madeira - - - -	18,569	342	b 1,556	c 945	d 531	e 70	f 38	-	-	118	134	-	22,767
Cape de Verds - -	766	-	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Azores - - - - -	164	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leone - -	4,619	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,619
Kroo Coast - - -	381	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Helena - - -	2,590	-	281	-	625	40	558	g 446	390	42	-	-	4,902
East Indies - - -	22,730	2,596	1,405	3,804	5,078	3,729	5,625	2,353	2,710	3,216	2,525	3,910	59,913
China - - - - -	647	-	-	699	1,942	3,365	2,590	396	509	1,691	789	-	12,988
British West Indies	1,187	-	56	-	-	-	-	69	4,297	h 2,549	i 837	9	9,908
Surinam - - - -	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rio de Janeiro -	441	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Martinique } - -	367	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guadaloupe } - -													-
TOTAL - - -	52,513	2,938	3,351	5,448	8,176	7,204	8,811	3,264	7,906	7,616	4,285	3,919	115,541
WHENCE EMIGRATING.	T R I N I D A D.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL
Madeira - - - -	725	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	725
Cape de Verds - -	-	172	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	172
Sierra Leone - -	2,474	-	-	-	226	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,700
St. Helena - - -	2,292	-	30	4	470	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,796
East Indies - - -	10,569	1,414	2,083	3,363	2,169	2,544	1,603	1,801	949	2,759	473	3,267	32,911
China - - - - -	988	-	-	-	-	-	467	-	-	593	597	-	2,645
United States - -	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
British West Indies	4,773	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,332	-	6,105
Rio de Janeiro -	879	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	879
TOTAL - - -	22,747	1,586	2,113	3,367	2,865	2,544	2,070	1,801	949	3,352	2,402	3,267	59,000

a This includes 205 Chinese brought from Panama.

b 72

c 261

d 396

e 35

f 9

g 74

h 63

i 80

of these were not introduced at the public expense.

Immigrants and Liberated Africans introduced into the *West India Colonies, &c.*—*continued.*

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	ST. LUCIA.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL.
St. Helena - - -	551	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	551
St. Helena - - -	568	-	-	-	-	-	179	-	-	-	-	-	747
West Indies - - -	-	-	-	555	660	-	320	-	-	-	-	-	1,535
TOTAL - - -	1,119	-	-	555	660	-	499	-	-	-	-	-	2,833
WHENCE EMIGRATING.	ST. VINCENT.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL.
St. Helena - - -	546	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	546
St. Helena - - -	234	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	234
St. Helena - - -	575	-	-	-	94	119	14	-	-	-	-	-	802
West Indies - - -	-	-	-	-	-	260	307	-	-	-	214	477	1,258
TOTAL - - -	1,355	-	-	-	94	379	321	-	-	-	214	477	2,840
WHENCE EMIGRATING.	GRENADA.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL.
St. Helena - - -	431	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	431
St. Helena - - -	972	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	972
St. Helena - - -	85	-	-	-	92	122	57	114	-	-	-	-	470
West Indies - - -	-	283	362	299	-	-	1,097	-	-	-	260	-	2,301
Barbuda - - -	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
TOTAL - - -	1,511	283	362	299	92	122	1,154	114	-	-	260	-	4,197
WHENCE EMIGRATING.	ANTIGUA.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL.
St. Helena - - -	1,973	-	44	-	-	11	-	191	-	-	-	-	2,219
St. Helena - - -	195	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	207
St. Helena - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*100	-	-	-	-	100
British West Indies -	19	-	12	26	-	-	-	1,005	-	-	-	-	1,062
TOTAL - - -	2,187	12	56	26	-	11	-	1,296	-	-	-	-	3,588

* Received from a French vessel stranded at Barbuda.

Immigrants and Liberated Africans introduced into the *West India Colonies, &c.*—*continued.*

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	S T. K I T T ' S.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL
Great Britain - -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madeira - - -	106	157	253	103	77	43	50	219	-	-	15	51	1,077
Sierra Leone - -	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	223	-	-	-	-	318
St. Helena - - -	137	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	137
East Indies - - -	-	-	-	-	-	337	-	-	-	-	-	-	337
British West Indies -	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
TOTAL - -	343	157	254	103	77	380	50	442	-	-	15	51	1,877

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	N E V I S.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL
Madeira - - -	427	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	427
TOTAL - -	427	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	427

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	T O B A G O.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL
Sierra Leone -	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
St. Helena - -	246	-	-	-	-	-	225	-	-	-	-	-	471
TOTAL - -	292	-	-	-	-	-	225	-	-	-	-	-	517

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	B A H A M A S.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL
From Wrecked Slaver	-	-	-	-	389	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	389
TOTAL - -	-	-	-	-	389	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	389

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	H O N D U R A S.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL
China - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	474	-	-	474
United States - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	178	178
British West Indies -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	129	-	-	129
TOTAL - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	603	-	178	781

Immigrants and Liberated Africans introduced into the *West India Colonies, &c.*—*continued.*

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	TOTAL TO WEST INDIES.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL.
Great Britain -	34	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Madeira - -	23,156	499	1,853	1,048	608	124	88	410	-	118	149	51	23,104
Cape de Verdes -	961	184	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,198
Sao Paulo - -	164	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	164
Serra Leone -	11,543	-	-	-	226	390	-	223	-	-	-	-	12,382
Pro Coast - -	381	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	381
S. Helena - -	9,125	-	311	4	1,328	540	1,641	1,093	390	42	-	11	14,485
East Indies - -	37,849	4,293	3,850	8,021	8,505	8,393	10,934	4,696	3,659	5,975	3,472	9,279	108,926
China - - -	2,107	-	-	699	1,942	3,365	3,057	496	509	2,758	1,386	-	16,319
Canada - - -	145	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	145
United States -	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	178	248
British West Indies	6,366	-	68	26	-	-	-	1,074	4,297	2,678	2,169	9	16,687
Javannah - -	347	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	347
Bahia - - -	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Surinam - - -	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Rio de Janeiro -	1,320	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,320
Martinique } Guadaloupe }	367	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	367
Direct from captured and wrecked Slavers.	230	362	-	-	389	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	981
TOTAL - -	94,219	5,338	6,136	9,798	12,998	12,812	15,720	7,992	8,855	11,571	7,176	9,528	202,143

WHENCE EMIGRATING.	MAURITIUS.												
	1843 to 1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	TOTAL.
Ibo, East Coast of Africa.	325	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	325
Madagascar - -	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
Réunion - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	350	350
Aden - - -	632	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	632
East Indies - -	173,141	12,725	29,946	44,397	13,286	13,985	9,893	5,254	7,575	20,278	5,596	-	336,076
China - - -	843	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	843
Direct from captured Slaver.	-	-	-	-	730	*568	†199	-	-	124	51	133	1,805
TOTAL - -	174,980	12,725	29,946	44,397	14,016	14,553	10,092	5,254	7,575	20,402	5,647	†483	340,070

* 202 of these were landed in the Seychelles.

† Landed in the Seychelles.

‡ The returns of immigration for the first, second, and third quarters only of 1867 have as yet been received.

Government Emigration Board,
8, Park-street, Westminster,
26 March 1868.

S. Walcott.

RETURN showing the Number of IMMIGRANTS and LIBERATED AFRICANS who have RETURNED to their own COUNTRIES from the *British West India Colonies* and *Mauritius*, and (as far as can be ascertained) the Amount of EARNINGS remitted through Government Agency in their Behalf, from 1843 to 1867.

YEAR.	From JAMAICA.		From BRITISH GUIANA.		From TRINIDAD.		From MAURITIUS.	
	Number.	Amount of Earnings.	Number.	Amount of Earnings.	Number.	Amount of Earnings.	Number.	Amount of Earnings.
		£. s. d.		£. s. d.		£. s. d.		
1843 to 1856	1,644	(a) 3,000 - -	(b) 3,283	(c) 25,474 19 2	1,675	23,561 10 10	46,066	
1857 - -	-	- - -	595	10,963 1 3	343	6,392 19 7	4,593	
1858 - -	126	No Return -	323	5,705 10 11	359	5,829 18 11	8,165	
1859 - -	-	- - -	797	15,018 12 8	-	- - -	5,118	
1860 - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	2,833	
1861 - -	74	No Return -	-	- - -	303	4,076 13 8	3,257	
1862 - -	-	- - -	407	(d) 8,983 15 -	-	- - -	2,212	No Return
			7	(e) 403 6 8	-	- - -		
1863 - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	3,221	
1864 - -	-	- - -	467	(f) 13,939 7 9	-	- - -	3,413	
1865 - -	-	- - -	462	(g) 11,485 4 2	514	(h) 14,000 - -	3,621	
1866 - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	-	- - -	3,815	
1867 - -	4	- - -	451	(i) 11,500 - -	-	- - -	(j) 2,657	
TOTAL - -	1,848	3,000 - -	6,792	103,473 17 7	3,194	53,861 3 -	89,071	-

(a) This is for two ships only, carrying 588 passengers. No returns for the other vessels.

(b) In regard to 1,308 passengers of this number there are no returns of money deposited with the Government authorities, or of the sums they had in their possession on embarkation for their own countries.

(c) In this amount are included the sums, so far as known, deposited by the passengers with the captains of the vessels in which they embarked.

(d) In addition to this amount, which was deposited with the Government Immigration Agent, that officer estimates that the savings of these Coolies could not be less than 15,000*l.*, including the value of the jewels and money which they took back with them, and the cost of the passages and clothing (1,445*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*) of such of them as were not entitled to free return passages.

(e) Besides this amount, these people paid for their own passages back to India *via* England.

(f) In this amount is included 1,000*l.*, the estimated value of the jewels on the immigrants, and a Bill of Exchange for 494*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*, which one of the Coolies took with him.

(g) This includes 250*l.*, the estimated value of the jewels on the immigrants.

(h) This amount consisted of—

Money deposited in Colonial Chest	-	-	-	9,700	-	-
Specie in possession of immigrants	-	-	-	2,701	3	7
Estimated value of jewels and undeclared specie	-	-	-	2,598	16	5

£. 14,000 - -

In addition to this sum, 77 people paid their own passages at the rate of 11*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* per adult, amounting to 911*l.* 1*s.*

(i) This sum consisted of—

Money deposited with Colonial Receiver General	-	-	-	10,237	14	2
Money transmitted through banks, specie in possession of Immigrants, and value of jewels; estimated at	-	-	-	1,262	5	10

£. 11,500 - -

(j) The returns of emigration for the first, second, and third quarters only of 1867 have as yet been received.

Government Emigration Board,
8, Park-street, Westminster,
26 March 1868.

S. Walcott.

IMMIGRANTS
AND LIBERATED AFRICANS.

RETURN, showing the Number of Immigrants and Liberated Africans admitted into each of the *British West India* Colonies, and *Martinis*, as well as the Places from whence they were introduced, from the Year 1843 to the end of the Year 1867, and in each Year since the 1st January 1857, to the end of the Year 1867; &c.

(*Mr. Moffatt*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
21 April 1868.

N A T A L.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 7 July 1868;—for,

“COPIES of the JUDGMENTS of the JUDGES of the SUPREME COURT of the Colony of *Natal* in the Case of the Bishop of *Natal* against the Dean of *Pietermaritzburg* :”

“And, of the CHARTER or other Instrument regulating the CONSTITUTION of *Natal* at the Period when the Letters Patent of the Bishop of *Natal* were issued.”

Colonial Office, }
21 July 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

THE JUDGMENTS delivered by the JUDGES of the SUPREME COURT of the Colony of *Natal*, in the case of the BISHOP of NATAL v. The Rev. J. GREEN, on 9th January 1868.

CHIEF JUSTICE HARDING.

THE first question arising to my mind to be dealt with is, When did the Crown cease to possess the power to legislate, by means of Letters Patent or Orders in Council, for the Cape of Good Hope and for Natal?—in other words, When did these two colonies cease to be Crown colonies properly so called? To answer this question it becomes necessary to look back to the history of legislation in these colonies.

The Cape of Good Hope was captured from the Dutch in the year 1806. [*Vide* capitulation 18th January 1806.] From 1806 to 1824 (which may be termed the first period), legislation at the Cape of Good Hope was carried on by means of proclamations issued by the Governor, several of which are still in force in that Colony. In 1814 the Cape of Good Hope was ceded to the British Crown, which in no way affected its political condition. On the 9th February 1825 the King, by instructions, issued under his Signet and Sign Manual, with the advice of his Privy Council, ordered and directed “that a Council shall be established in this Colony (*i. e.* the Cape) to advise and assist in the administration of the Government thereof,” and at the same time signified his pleasure that this Council should consist of certain six person who are named, the first three being designated by office only, thus, the Chief Justice, the Colonial Secretary, and the officer next in command; and the last three being named, thus, Lieutenant Colonel Bell (who appears to have held no office at that time), Walter Bentinck, Esq., Auditor General, and J. W. Stoll, Esq., Receiver General. This Council, presided over by the Governor of the Cape, enacted various laws, which were termed “Ordinances passed by the Governor with the *advice* of the Council of Government,” and existed until 1834, which period, namely, from 1824 to 1834, may be called the second period. In 1833, the Crown, by Letters Patent, 23rd October 1833, established at the Cape a “*Legislative Council*,” consisting of 12 members, six as holding certain offices, and six unofficial members, but yet nominated by the Governor, subject to the approval of the Crown. This Council existed until 1850, when, by Letters Patent, power was conferred on it to pass Ordinances establishing the Legislature which now exists at the Cape, namely, an elective Legislative Council and an elective Legislative Assembly. The

"Constitution Ordinances" (as they are commonly called), passed for the Cape colony by the Legislative Council, authorised thereto by Her Majesty's Letters Patent, were amended by the Queen in Council, and, so amended, were sanctioned and allowed as law by Her Majesty, by Order in Council of 11th March, 1853. It is quite notorious, and to my mind clear, that from 1806 to 1853 the Crown, by Letters Patent, Charters, Orders in Council, and Royal Instructions, not only did, but had the power effectually to legislate for the Cape Colony, notwithstanding the existence of the colonial councils of 1825 and 1834. The Charters of Justice to the Cape of 1828 and 1832; the Order in Council as to marriages, are all instances of this power.

But it is said that the Letters Patent of 1833, constituting the Cape Legislative Council, which ceased in 1853, contained a clause reserving to the King and his heirs power to "make and establish, from time to time, with the advice or consent of Parliament, or with the advice of his or their Privy Council, all such laws as might to him or them appear necessary, &c." This no doubt is so; but I should argue that this is a reservation which need not have been made in order to retain this power to the Crown: firstly, because this power was inherent in the Crown under the circumstances as to legislation in which the Cape was in 1833; and secondly, because it was clearly unnecessary and indeed unmeaning, so to retain to the *British Parliament* the power of legislation, for the power of Parliament cannot be curtailed. Then, also, I would ask, if this reservation is essential to preserve to the Crown the rights it professes to reserve, why was it omitted from the document establishing the Council at the Cape in 1825? I am unable to find any trace of it on that occasion; and yet, with this Colonial Council in existence, the Crown, in 1828, granted a charter to the Cape for the better administration of justice in that Colony, the validity of which has never been questioned. It granted coercive jurisdiction to the Supreme Court which it created, over all Her Majesty's subjects, in all cases, civil, criminal, or mixed, within the Colony. The proclamation of Lord Charles Somerset, of the 2nd May 1825, is silent as to any such reservation as is contained in the Letters Patent of 1833. It is possible, however, that the King's instructions, which I have not the means of referring to, may contain this reservation, although I think if they did so, the proclamation announcing the creation of that Council would have mentioned it.

The Colony of Natal was established in 1845. Previously to this it was held by, and taken from, the rebel Boers by the British troops. It was, at first, a district of the Cape Colony, and the Legislative Council at the Cape was vested with the power of legislation as regards Natal. It was subsequently formed into a distinct and separate Colony. In 1847, the Queen, by Letters Patent, created a legislature for Natal, giving it power to make and ordain all such laws as might be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of the Colony, and by Royal instructions, which accompanied those Letters Patent, appointed three persons, namely, the Colonial Secretary, Crown Prosecutor, and Surveyor General, to be the members of that legislature, over which the Lieutenant Governor was to preside. That Council existed until 1856, when, by charter, the present Legislative Council, consisting of four officers of the Crown, and 12 unofficial members, to be elected as is therein provided, was established.

This narrative has become necessary, because it is argued that the Privy Council have held that, after the establishment of an independent legislature, the Crown, by virtue of its prerogative, had no power to grant to the plaintiff his Letters Patent of November 1853, creating him Bishop of Natal. It may be doubted whether the Privy Council have decided in strict terms, either in the case of Mr. Long, or in that of the plaintiff, that the Crown had no power to grant the Letters Patent it did to the plaintiff in November 1853, on the ground that in 1853 the Colony of Natal was possessed of an independent legislature. The language of the Privy Council is this: "Three principal questions arise, and have been argued before us; first, Were the Letters Patent of the 8th December 1853, by which Dr. Gray was appointed metropolitan, and a metropolitan see or province was expressed to be created, valid and good in law?" The answer is, "With respect to the first question, we apprehend it to be clear, upon principle, that after the establishment of an *independent* legislature in the settlements of the Cape of Good Hope and Natal, there was no power in the Crown, by virtue of its prerogative, to establish a metropolitan see or province, or to create an ecclesiastical corporation." The question stated by the Privy Council refers to

Dr.

Dr. Gray's patent *only*, and their answer, in my opinion, refers only to *one* (an) independent legislature, namely, that of the Cape of Good Hope, and to *one* (a) *metropolitan* see, namely, that of the Cape of Good Hope also; for it is clear that Natal never was created a *metropolitan* see. It is true that, further on in the judgment, the Privy Council, assuming that the colony of Natal was possessed of an independent legislature similar to that of the Cape Colony, lay down this: "There is, therefore, no power in the Crown to create any new or additional ecclesiastical tribunal or jurisdiction; and the clauses which purport to do so, contained in the Letters Patent to the appellant and respondent, are simply void in law. No metropolitan or bishop in any colony having legislative institutions can, by virtue of the Crown's Letters Patent alone, unless granted under an Act of Parliament, or confirmed by Colonial statute, exercise any coercive jurisdiction, or hold any court or tribunal for that purpose." I notice that in the answer to the question I have alluded to, the term "*independent legislature*" is used, whilst in the subsequent quotation the term used is "*legislative institutions*." In my opinion, the Privy Council proceeded on the erroneous assumption, either that Natal formed a part of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, whereas, in truth, it was a separate and distinct Colony, 1,000 miles away from the Cape of Good Hope; or else, that an "*independent legislature*," or "*legislative institutions*," existed in Natal in 1853, similar to what then existed at the Cape of Good Hope, whereas, in truth, the Cape of Good Hope in 1853 had an independent Parliament, consisting of an elective House of Assembly and an elective Legislative Council; whilst in 1853, when the plaintiff received his Letters Patent, the Colony of Natal had no such "*independent legislature*" or any such "*legislative institutions*," and, in fact, possessed a legislature wholly dependent upon the Crown, consisting of the Lieutenant Governor and three officers of the Crown, selected and appointed by the Crown, to which the term "*independent legislature*," or "*legislative institutions*," was, in my opinion, wholly inapplicable. Indeed, I doubt very much whether either of these terms would be strictly applicable to the Council of 1856 as now existing, constituted as it is of official nominees of the Crown, and a certain number of non-official members elected by the people. It is half *dependent* and half *independent*, and neither altogether the one nor the other, and resembles the Council at the Cape of Good Hope, established in 1833, except that the non-official element in the latter was composed of nominees of the Crown, and not of persons elected, as in Natal, since 1856.

In Mr. Long's case the Privy Council lay down: "The bishoprick of Capetown was founded in the year 1847. At this time the legislative authority in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope was vested in the Crown." True; but it then had a Legislative Council composed of certain officers and nominees of the Crown; and besides, the legislative authority at the Cape was not, in 1847, *wholly* vested in the Crown; the Crown reserved only a kind of concurrent jurisdiction to legislate. Well, then, if the Cape Council of 1847, being that established in 1833, was not an "*independent legislature*," or a "*legislative institution*," how can the Natal Council of 1853, composed of the Lieutenant Governor and three paid officers of the Crown, be termed or held to be an "*independent legislature*" or a "*legislative institution*"?

The Privy Council, in their judgment in the Colenso case, say, "We therefore arrive at the conclusion that, although in a Crown Colony, properly so called, &c., a bishopric may be constituted, and ecclesiastical jurisdiction conferred by the sole authority of the Crown, yet the letters patent of the Crown will not have any such effect or operation in a Colony or settlement which is possessed of an *independent legislature*." I have already shown that in 1853 the Colony of Natal did *not* possess anything even resembling an independent legislature; it would be a caricature to apply this term to the Council which then existed. If I were called upon to define the meaning of the terms "a Crown Colony, properly so called," I should say it was this, namely, a colony or settlement acquired by the British Crown, by conquest or treaty, in which the power of legislation rested with the Sovereign by virtue of the Queen's prerogative, or in which legislation vested with the official nominees of the Crown, appointed by the Crown in that behalf; in which the revenue and expenditure were in the absolute control and disposal of the Crown; in which the lands of the Colony were vested in and were disposed of only by the Crown; in which the accounts of the revenue and expenditure were examined by, and allowed or disallowed by, Her Majesty's Commissioners of Audit in London; and in which the inhabitants of the Colony had

no voice or power whatever, either as to legislation or anything else connected with Government. I think a colony or settlement in the position just described would be essentially a Crown Colony, properly so called; at any rate, it would not be possessed of an *independent legislature*. If this definition is correct, then it represents exactly the condition in which the Colony of Natal was in the year 1853, and previously and subsequently; while, as I have already shown, the Cape Colony was possessed of an independent legislature consisting of an Elective Assembly and Legislative Council. No man is more willing or anxious to respect and uphold the judgments of their Lordships than I am; I entertain the deepest respect in a quarter where I know so much profound wisdom and learning exist. I in no manner call in question the wisdom of their decision in this instance; but I trust I need no apology for stating that, in my humble opinion, resting on the facts I have stated, their Lordships, as regarded the Colony of Natal, proceeded, in respect of the plaintiff's Letters Patent, on imperfect information as to the facts, in reference to the political condition of the Colony in the year 1853. Before quitting this part of the subject, it only remains for me to state distinctly, that in my opinion the Colony of Natal in 1853 was a Crown Colony, properly so called.

I come now to another part of this controversy, namely, "Had the plaintiff the power to take the proceedings and pronounce the sentence he did in regard to the defendant?" To my mind the answer is easy. If, in 1853, Natal was a Crown Colony, properly so called, then, in my opinion, the proceedings were good and valid, as held by the Privy Council; if, on the other hand, Natal was not a Crown Colony, properly so called, then they are void in law; because the plaintiff could not then, under his patent, "*exercise any coercive jurisdiction, or hold any court or tribunal for that purpose*," as also held by the Privy Council.

The Privy Council have decided that in the Colonies the Anglican Church is to be regarded as a merely voluntary association, and I view the plaintiff and defendant before the Court in this sense. In the Ordinance No. 7, 1843, regulating the Dutch Reformed Church, section 8, lays down—

No rule or regulation of the said church, whether contained in the schedule to this Ordinance, or to be afterwards framed, shall have or possess any direct or inherent power whatever to affect in any way the persons or properties of any person whomsoever. But all such rules and regulations shall be regarded in law in like manner as the rules and regulations of a merely voluntary association, and shall be capable of affecting the persons or properties of such persons only as shall be proved, in the course of any action or suit before any competent court, to have subscribed, agreed to, adopted, or recognised the said rules and regulations, or some of them, in such manner as to be bound thereby, in virtue of the ordinary legal principles applicable to cases of express or implied contract.

This law contains the proper legal principles, by which the rights and privileges of the plaintiff and defendant are to be tested; and this is also what the Privy Council, in Mr. Long's case, lay down as the legal position of the Anglican Church in the Colonies.

The Court, then, has to decide on a simple question of evidence, as it would be left to a jury; and I am bound to say that there is abundant direct evidence in the case to show that the plaintiff and defendant were guided and bound by the rules of the Church of England, in so far as they could be made applicable to the Church here; that the defendant formally acknowledged himself as bound to the plaintiff, subject, of course, to those rules; and that, so long as the plaintiff took no step which a bishop in England (viewing the parties as the creatures of English law) could not take, his acts must be viewed as within those rules. The defendant was raised to his present position of Dean of Maritzburg by the plaintiff himself, and before this he held his license. Now, the defendant says, "I will no longer acknowledge the plaintiff's capacity, still less his authority, because," he says, "the *Church* has excommunicated the plaintiff," a step which is based upon the proceedings of the Bishop of Capetown, which, as well as the sentence which followed it, the Queen and Her Privy Council have held to be "*null and void in law*." This decision is binding on this court, and we must uphold it. The defendant is, of course, not bound to remain a member of the voluntary association, called the Church of England, of which, in this Colony, the plaintiff is the lawful Bishop; he may join any other voluntary association, or he may establish a new one; for in this Colony we all enjoy full freedom of conscience,

and

and we are at liberty to worship Almighty God in any manner or form that we may consider most proper or befitting.

The defendant, in his argument, truly says, "Every voluntary association claims the right to expel its members; every State claims and asserts the right to banish or put to death members that are an injury to it. Can the Church be a society, and not possess the like power?" A State banishes or puts to death, according to circumstances, any subject who disobeys the law, or who sets the law at defiance; and, in the same way, a voluntary association, having rules for its government and management, would have a right, I take it, to expel any member who, having once acknowledged and been bound by such rules, afterwards not only refused to comply with them, but acted in defiance of them. The defendant says, further on, "I stated that as, for the reasons assigned, I had at one time acknowledged the plaintiff to be Bishop of Natal by Divine permission; so I dared not now ascribe such authority to him, nor receive him as one empowered by God to minister spiritual gifts to His Church." I have no doubt that this is the defendant's deliberate and serious opinion, formed on grounds which to his mind warrant him fully in arriving at this conclusion; and he is of course at liberty to form his own opinion, and to take the course he does. But clearly he cannot then belong to the voluntary association, namely, the Anglican Church in this Colony, of which the plaintiff is the head, and lay claim to use the property, of which the plaintiff is trustee, and which is subject to the rules of the Church of England, when he sets the plaintiff's authority, and the rules vesting that authority in him, at defiance. Many worthy people entertain the opinion that a State has no power to put its subjects to death for any crime; but the State thinks and acts otherwise. Suppose a criminal was ordered for execution, and that the gaoler was a person who believed that the State had no power to execute his prisoner; and suppose that, on the day fixed upon, the gaoler refused not only to deliver the man to the sheriff, but proceeded to resist his being taken to execution. The State in such a case would cause the gaoler to be punished; it would say to him, "You are entitled to think as you do, and to advocate your views on every lawful occasion; but you shall not set at defiance the laws of the State to which you belong; for they are binding on your acts, and your conduct must be regulated by them." So the defendant may cherish his own views and opinions, and he may support them by all lawful means, and on all proper occasions; but if he sets at defiance the rules and regulations of the Church of which the plaintiff is the head, under which rules the defendant "at one time acknowledged the plaintiff to be Bishop of Natal by Divine permission," he cannot, in my opinion, claim any privilege which those rules would otherwise allow him. Thus the plaintiff is the trustee of the cathedral, of St. Andrew's, and of St. John's, Pinetown; and of this property the legal estate vests in him for the purposes of the English Church, of which he is the bishop, and consequently the head. And, so soon as the defendant ceases to observe the rules of that Church, and on the contrary to act in defiance of those rules and of the decision of the Queen in Council, he ceases to be entitled to any rights in respect of those churches which he possessed under those rules.

MR. JUSTICE PHILLIPS.

THE plaintiff in this cause was, by Letters Patent, on the 23rd of November 1853, created Lord Bishop of Natal. The defendant is a clerk in Holy Orders, who has long been officiating in this colony as a clergyman of the Church of England; and plaintiff now seeks against defendant;—(i.) a judgment of this court, pronouncing valid and confirming a certain judgment and sentence of deprivation, passed by the plaintiff upon the defendant;—(ii.) an interdict restraining defendant from officiating in any of the buildings in this Colony set apart for the uses of the Church of England, and in any of which plaintiff is trustee; and—(iii.) a writ of ejection, ousting defendant from the dwelling-house he occupies, and of which plaintiff claims to be the owner in trust.

The suit is a result of the differences that have latterly arisen between plaintiff and some of the clergy who formerly recognised him as the Bishop he was assumed to be, and is doubtless brought by the plaintiff to ascertain his position as Bishop; the means, if any, of enforcing discipline, as also the amount of

control he may possess as trustee of certain lands, transferred to him in his capacity as Bishop of Natal. I postpone consideration of plaintiff's claims and rights as proprietor in trust, and of the pleadings relating thereto, dealing at present only with his claims to jurisdiction over the defendant.

By the pleadings (I take them as they are intended, and as they were treated in argument) plaintiff claims to exercise jurisdiction over defendant; (i.) by virtue of Letters Patent, and, (ii.) by virtue of the personal contract or submission of the defendant. The defendant denies the capability of the Letters Patent to bestow jurisdiction; and as to the alleged consensual jurisdiction, he pleads that he contracted to submit himself to the plaintiff in spiritual things only, and that by reason of certain spiritual matters set forth, he is absolved from such his contract. It is not without difficulty I have persuaded myself that the full validity of the Letters Patent is a question competent for the court to entertain under the declaration. The plaintiff certainly intended to raise the question; he argued it, and with this view, doubtless, inserted the averment (by itself immaterial) of what at the date of such Letters Patent was the political constitution or government of the Colony. But the pleadings do not ask for a declaration by the court of plaintiff's general rights, and they only aver a jurisdiction by him over all clergymen of the United Church of England and Ireland in this Colony, who have submitted themselves to, or contracted with, him "or otherwise." If, therefore, the full validity of the Letters Patent are put in issue, it is by the words "or otherwise" appended to the apparently limited class plaintiff claims jurisdiction over.

The plaintiff argued (i.) that the Letters Patent "are as good law as any law in this Colony," valid to give him coercive ecclesiastical jurisdiction; (ii.) that the letters patent are defective only in conferring executive power, but valid to the extent of giving him "a territorial sphere of action, within which all members of the Church of England are under his jurisdiction as Bishop *in foro domestico*"; (iii.) that the Letters Patent give him capacity to hold such jurisdiction as he may be able through the influence of his status to gain for himself.

That the Crown can in a conquered or ceded Colony, or in "a Crown Colony," or, if there be a distinction, in "a Crown Colony properly so called," establish any law or body of laws it sees fit, means no more than that the Crown has absolute and exclusive right of legislation *within the scope of its prerogative*, that is, so far as unrestrained by the constitution of England or by Imperial statute. If I apprehend correctly the effect of the several statutes of 1st Eliz., 16th Chas. I., and 13th Chas. II., and the position in which these several statutes left the prerogative of the Crown, the Crown is denuded of the power of creating within any of its dominions any ecclesiastical tribunal or jurisdiction whatsoever. Granting, therefore, that at the date of plaintiff's Letters Patent, Natal could be legislated for by the Crown alone, it could only be within the scope of the prerogative; not to the extent of conferring on any Bishop, however lawfully appointed, the right to hold any court or exercise any coercive or quasi-coercive jurisdiction. The plaintiff argues that the effect of the Imperial statutes I have just referred to, was prohibitive only on the Crown creating tribunals, like the High Commission Court, but did not affect the power to create new courts, exercising the ordinary jurisdiction of a Bishop's Court. But it appears to me that, although it was the abusive exercise of power by a particular court which gave rise to legislative prohibition, the prohibition was directed against all Ecclesiastical Courts, or the exercise of any jurisdiction by spiritual or ecclesiastical persons or judges; and so effective was the prohibition, that the Act of Chas. I. was passed for the purpose of restoring to certain Bishops' Courts the ordinary jurisdiction that had been taken from them. Nor am I aware that, since the passing of the Act of Chas. I., any acknowledged bishopric or ecclesiastical jurisdiction has been established by the Crown without the express sanction of the Legislature, given in each particular case. And it may yet be questioned if the Crown can, without the consent of the Imperial Parliament, confirm a colonial legislative enactment, granting coercive ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

The power of the Crown, within the scope of its prerogative, to legislate for this Colony, must, I think, depend upon the question, how far the Crown, at the date of such legislation, had surrendered its power to others. But the plaintiff argued that this view was too narrow; that, effectually to bar the Crown from legislation, the delegation must be to a constitutional body, and not to mere nominees of the Crown. And he showed that at the date when the first Letters Patent

Patent of the Bishop of Capetown were issued (and these, no doubt, were treated as law, whether they *were* law is another question), the legislative power of the Cape Colony was vested in the Governor and a nominee Council, composed in part of official, and in part of unofficial members, with a concurrent right of legislation expressly reserved to the Crown. He further showed, that in this Colony, at the date of the issue of his own Letters Patent, the legislative power was vested in the Lieutenant Governor and a nominee Council of two or three official members; no concurrent right of legislation by the Crown being, as by the Cape Charter, expressly reserved. But the Bishop contended, that this omission of an express reservation was an error, was immaterial, and could not bar the Crown from exercising its right. And he further showed, that such right had in fact been exercised by the Crown, as though it had been specially reserved. He contended that the case of *Campbell v. Hall* decided no more than that the Crown was barred from the exercise of legislation, when it surrendered that power to a *constitutional* body, and showed that the Charter of the Cape, which was under consideration in Long's case, contained an elective or representative element; that in the appeal from that case, as also in the matter of the appeal of the Bishop of Natal, the judgment of the Privy Council appeared to emphasise the words, "Independent Legislature," "Representative Institutions," and "Constitutional Government," which emphasis, under any other view than that contended for by plaintiff, was unnecessary.

But I incline to the opinion that these particular words were employed, not as words of *distinction*, but simply as words of *description*, and intended to convey nothing more. I believe that the right of the Crown to legislate depends rather on "how far," than "to whom," the Crown has surrendered its right, and that the constitution of the body, to which the power is delegated, is an immaterial thing. Granting also, that the omission in the Natal Charter of the ordinary clause, reserving to the Crown a concurrent right of legislation, was not intended, that it happened merely through "*incuria*," yet there it is, or, rather, there it is not. The grant must operate to its full apparent extent against the grantor; it reserves nothing by implication. I must take the Charter as I find it, and conclude that, as long as it was in existence, the Colony could only be legislated for as by the Charter directed, that is, through the nominee Council. The fact, that the Crown did legislate for the Colony during the continuance of the Charter, and independently of it, is not conclusive evidence that the Crown had the legal right so to do. Plaintiff's Letters Patent, therefore, cannot have the force of law.

Holding this view, I do not see how we can confirm the judgment and sentences of the 9th of May, which plaintiff passed upon defendants. The Bishop proceeded under his Letters Patent, relying alone on their assumed authority to give him, as he claimed for them, a territorial sphere of action, and a jurisdiction as Bishop "*in foro domestico*" over all the members of the Church of England within Natal. But, looking at the proceedings, it is impossible for me to say that the Bishop, sitting with his assessors and registrar, did not sit as a court or ecclesiastical tribunal, sit and act under authority assumed to be derived from his Letters Patent. The plaintiff may term such a *forum domesticum*, but it is not less a Court. It purports to have legal authority for its inception; it is a Court in name, form, manner of proceeding, a Court in its solemnities, lacking only that which it calls upon us to supply, executive power, and the supplying of which would create the *forum domesticum* into a State tribunal. If it is to be such, it should be made such by the legislature, and not by this Court. I cannot see that plaintiff's *forum* was other than such an ecclesiastical tribunal as the Crown never had the power, nor assumed, to create. The Bishop, in his proceedings, no doubt acted on the supposed effect of a decision of the Master of the Rolls. He proceeded according to the principles of justice; he followed substantially, and as far as local circumstances would admit of, the course which the Privy Council in Long's case intimated as the proper one to be pursued. But the question is not if the plaintiff proceeded properly, but if he had any right to proceed at all; and that was a question left open in Long's case, the Privy Council merely enunciating the fair way of proceeding, *if a bishop was acting, and entitled to act*, with the authority of a visitor sitting *in foro domestico*. Even had the plaintiff, in his proceedings, proved and relied on any contract of the defendant, giving him the authority of a Bishop of the Church of England, and agreeing that such authority should be exercised after the manner and in the form in vogue in

England in like cases, I should nevertheless have held that such proceedings were a nullity and nothing more, that it was not competent for defendant so to contract and consent, that a Court, such as the plaintiff assumed to hold, could not be established by mere contract between himself and defendant. But plaintiff neither sat, nor assumed to sit, as an arbitrator, whose jurisdiction rested on the agreement of parties. And I do not, therefore, in the conclusion to which I arrive, infringe upon the principle laid down in *Dr. Warren's case*, and affirmed by so many subsequent decisions.

Before leaving the subject of the Letters Patent, I would remark, that they have never appeared to me, as they have been termed, "a legal blunder." As I have ever read them, they do not contemplate the granting of a coercive jurisdiction to recipient. Had they done so, and had that been their apparent object, (admitting that the Crown was restrained by statute from creating such jurisdiction), it would have been questionable if the Letters Patent were not wholly void. But it appears to me that they carefully avoid giving a jurisdiction, or I should say a superintendence, beyond what is purely spiritual or moral, or any right to the recipient to proceed at all, or, if to proceed at all, to exceed censure. The wording of the instrument is most guarded. Permissive jurisdiction is given to the Bishop, to perform all the functions peculiar and appropriate to his office within the diocese of Natal. But does this imply the exercise of functions beyond such as are by the laws of the Colony appropriated to him to perform. The power of visitation and enquiry given (and which plaintiff would exercise as an existing temporal power, and enforce by civil authority) is prefaced by the words of limitation, "and for a declaration of the spiritual causes and matters in which the assumed jurisdiction may be more especially exercised." These Letters Patent were the necessary mandate for plaintiff's consecration. They gave him what they alone could give, high titular dignity. But, so far as disputed, they, in my opinion, do not give, nor assume to give, him aught beyond what, by his holy office, his living and teaching, he could have acquired for himself.

Proceeding now to the discussion of the plaintiff's claim to jurisdiction by contract, the declaration means to say, that upon the request of defendant that the plaintiff would consecrate the Church of St. Peter, he, the defendant, would yield, and he promised to yield, to plaintiff, due canonical obedience. The defendant's pleas are not easily understood; but I take them to mean, that he holds the Government appointment of chaplain of the English Church at Pietermaritzburg, over which the plaintiff has no control, that defendant had a freehold interest, as chaplain, in certain churches, and also, that his contract with the plaintiff was a spiritual one, that cannot be enforced or taken cognizance of by courts of law, and that, as a spiritual contract, it has been spiritually released.

With regard to the first plea I have referred to, I do not see that the claim of plaintiff goes to deprive defendant of the office of chaplain of the English Church. If it did, it would be in this way—that the judgment and sentence of the plaintiff, which I have before referred to, assumes to deprive him of his office, or the right to exercise his office, as a minister of the United Church of England and Ireland; and, if this were confirmed by the Court, and to the extent of prohibiting the defendant by interdict, he might be unable to perform the duties attached to the office of English chaplain, and, being unable to perform the duties, the emoluments might be withheld. But, from the decision that I have arrived at upon the validity of the plaintiff's proceedings, his claim is reduced to an interdict against defendant officiating in such buildings as may be vested in plaintiff as trustee, and defendant will be free to exercise his office elsewhere. Such portions of defendant's pleas, as relate to his freehold interest as chaplain in certain churches, may be properly considered with plaintiff's claim as based on his trusteeship. The present question is, did the defendant contract to subject himself to the lawful authority of the plaintiff as a Bishop? If he did, is such contract yet binding; and to what extent is it to be enforced by this Court, within the terms of plaintiff's prayer? The evidence adduced at the hearing proved what was in effect a license asked for by the defendant, and given by the plaintiff; and that, on the consecration of St. Peter's, the defendant, receiving the keys of the church from plaintiff, expressly promised to render due and canonical obedience to him. And, according to the decision of the Privy Council in the appeal of *Long v. the Bishop of Capetown*, I must take such acts as a contract and

and voluntary submission on the part of the defendant to the authority of the plaintiff as Bishop, to the extent of enabling the plaintiff to deprive the defendant on such cause. I think I may be spared entering into the matter of the cause of deprivation, and the sufficiency of the cause. The plaintiff proved it; the defendant tacitly admitted it before us. It was one of discipline alone. But the defendant avers that it was in spiritual things only he contracted to obey the plaintiff. It is with the temporalities connected with the contract that this Court is asked to deal and does deal. If the defendant means that his contract did not bind him in law, but only in conscience, I say, in a temporal and legal aspect, and in pure fact, the defendant promised that to the plaintiff, which induced plaintiff to give something which, but for the promise, would have been withheld; and this Court but establishes the right of one contracting party to recover what he gave for a consideration which has failed. If defendant means to say that the spiritual position of the plaintiff in the English Church induced defendant to contract and promise as he did, and that the promise and contract was binding only so long as the spiritual position existed, I say that, so far as this court is concerned, the spiritual position of the plaintiff is this day as it was on the day of the contract; that the assumed deposition of plaintiff from exercising spiritual authority in the United Church of England and Ireland (and which it is defendant's office to preach as the Church of God) has been declared null and void by the earthly spiritual head of that church. The defendant has shown no grounds sufficient in law to release him from his contract with the plaintiff. When acknowledging the plaintiff's right under the contract to deprive defendant, or to ask this Court to deprive him, I do not employ the word "deprive" in its most extended signification; I limit it to a deprivation of what the plaintiff himself actually bestowed, a deprivation of the right to fill St. Peter's Cathedral, so far as that right was bestowed by plaintiff, a deprivation of the office of dean, and a deprivation of the license to minister, not a deprivation of the right to minister.

In considering the extent of the contract entered into between plaintiff and defendant, it must be borne in mind that, in Long's case, the Bishop assumed to deprive of such material things only as he might be considered to have bestowed, the benefice and the license; nor does the judgment on appeal appear to go beyond affirmation of the right to deprive of these only. Long's case leaves open the larger and more important question of the right of a priest of the Church of England, by virtue of his ordination alone, to exercise his office according to the rights and forms of that church, to whoever may request them, in any Colony where that church is but a voluntary association. Had I upheld the proceedings under which plaintiff sentenced the defendant to deprivation of his office of minister in the United Church of England and Ireland, or if the plaintiff had not limited his application for interdict against defendant, as in his prayer he has done, it would have been incumbent upon me to have given a decision on this point. And in all probability I should have decided that the law of the Church of England, which compels every priest to hold the license of the Bishop of that diocese in which he would minister (or other right of mission), is not applicable here, that such a law, if applied to such a contract as I take it existed between the plaintiff and defendant, would be an extension of the contract beyond the contracting parties, and would, in fact, introduce the laws of the Church of England into a Colony where that church is but a voluntary association.

From the evidence, it appears that the land on which St. Andrew's Church is erected, the land in Pinetown, on which St. John's Church is erected, and the land on which the building known as the Deanery stands, is vested in plaintiff for the use of the English Church. I think this is the term used in every deed of transfer; but, whether it is or not, the effect of each deed was, that on the registry plaintiff stood as legal owner of the several properties in trust, or for the use of others; and by the judgment of this court, the plaintiff stands in the same position as regards the land on which the Cathedral Church of St. Peter's is erected. The argument, that, although the lands themselves were vested in plaintiff, the buildings belonged to those who erected them, is erroneous. The buildings are attached to the freehold, belong to it, and cannot be severed from it. The defendant, in argument, denied the plaintiff's title as trustee, and endeavoured to show that plaintiff took nothing by his transfer, that he was a mere feoffee to uses, and that the English Church, by virtue of such transfer or conveyance, took the legal estate as well as the beneficial one. This

argument was based upon the presumed operation of the statute of 27 Hen. 8, the well-known statute for transferring uses into possession; and it is sufficient answer to the argument, that the statute of uses cannot operate here. Our tenures are different to the feudal tenures of England; our system of conveying is different. All questions relating to real property are determined by the *lex loci*, and by the law of the Colony. The several properties in dispute are vested in the plaintiff upon certain trusts. Those trusts, it may be, are broadly stated, and at some future time it may devolve upon this court to define them, and regulate their administration, but it is no part of the question now before us. The plaintiff has come here to seek for that control which the transfer of the property to him as Bishop, and the very nature of the property shows it was intended he should have over it. He has come to us as the owner of property for possession, as trustee, to uphold his right to exercise that discretion, with reference to its use, which the broad terms of the trust evince the intention to repose in him. It would have been competent for defendant to have shown that his eviction by the plaintiff was an unfair exercise of plaintiff's discretion as trustee. But, that this is so, defendant does not assert. He simply denies the trusteeship, or, admitting the trusteeship, denies plaintiff's right as trustee to interfere. "We" (the defendant uses this word *we* throughout, but it is not the proper one for his position) "chose to erect that church; but, if to-morrow we resolved to devote the building to different purposes, we are in law free to do so; the land is ours, to use as we will; we may let it lie waste." I wonder it never suggested itself to the defendant, that it might be in part for the preservation of the property from such uses that it was vested in a trustee. A trust-estate must not only be properly used, but so used by the parties who alone are entitled to the user. What those uses are, and by whom enjoyed, is generally a question which the trustee, with the trust-deed before him, in the first instance settles for himself. If the manner in which he does so is at variance with the trust, is an unfair exercise of any discretion reposed in him, any parties interested can obtain relief. But there can, I think, be no doubt of plaintiff's right to exercise his discretion, so far as he yet assumes to exercise it, and to require of one who would claim as *cestui que use* under a gift to the English Church, that he should, professing to be a priest of that church, conform to its discipline as well as its doctrine. There is no evidence that any of the properties vested in plaintiff are attached to the office of chaplain to the English Church. The lands appear to have been acquired by plaintiff, and the buildings to have been erected by voluntary subscription. Doubtless, the defendant was instrumental in obtaining many of the subscriptions, and to his exertions under plaintiff in a great measure may be attributed the sufficiency of church accommodation here. But it is perhaps equally true that many of those, who contributed largely to the erection of the churches, would be much grieved to see them withdrawn from the plaintiff's control. The defendant avers that, as to St. Andrew's, it is a chapel of ease to St. Peter's, and that, as to St. Peter's and the deanery, he has a freehold interest in them as incumbent or parson. But I think I am correct in concluding that, if the defendant before the consecration of St. Peter's, had any title at all, it was such alone as possession gave him, a possession not formally given, but taken by the tacit consent of those, who had no right to give; but who with himself had been instrumental in acquiring. But, whatever defendant's title or interest was, he must be taken as having surrendered it to the plaintiff, when upon the consecration of St. Peter's he delivered up to him the keys, and again received them at his hands. The delivery of the keys was but an attornment by the defendant to the plaintiff, and the re-delivery to defendant was an induction of the defendant to the benefice, a benefice of which, according to the decision in Long's case, the plaintiff could for certain causes deprive him. The deanery I can consider as nothing but an appurtenance to the church of St. Peter's. Of the office of dean I wish to say nothing. Let the plaintiff's deprivation have the effect each man will give it; it is, as before us, too shadowy and unsubstantial for the grasp of a civil tribunal. If at any time the defendant, as dean, asserts a *jus rerum*, the plaintiff can apply.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I am of opinion:—

1. That it is not within the prerogative of the Crown to create a coercive ecclesiastical jurisdiction within any of its dominions;
2. That, at the date of the grant to plaintiff of the Letters Patent, the Crown had by its charter precluded itself from legislating for this Colony;
3. That

3. That, so far as disputed, plaintiff's Letters Patent neither gave, nor assumed to give, him any control over others beyond what he could gain by contract;

4. That the proceedings of the plaintiff, which resulted in the judgment and sentence of the 9th of May, are null and void at law, and cannot be aided by this court;

5. That the plaintiff has proved such a contract with the defendant, and such a breach of that contract, as according to the ruling in Long's case, entitles the plaintiff to claim the aid of this court in depriving defendant of what he gained under the contract;

6. That the plaintiff, as trustee of property vested in him for the uses of the English Church, has a right to the fair exercise of his discretion in the management of the trust, and that this court will not restrain such exercise, or interfere, save upon sufficient cause shown.

My judgment will, therefore, be a dismissal of such part of plaintiff's suit, as prays for the confirmation of the proceedings, or judgment, and sentence of deprivation passed on the 9th May, and a declaration, that plaintiff is entitled to the interdict of this court, prohibiting defendant from officiating in any of the churches or buildings in this Colony set apart for the uses of the Church of England, and in any of which plaintiff is trustee; as also to the writ of ejectment, ousting defendant from the premises vested in plaintiff, and known as the deanery.

I am disinclined to say anything about costs. The plaintiff has prevailed, but not to the extent of his claim. Property has incidentally been the subject of the dispute; but the real question has been one of principle between two conscientious gentlemen, either of whom would grieve to see the other pecuniarily harassed. Hitherto the costs must have been nominal, the little legal assistance required upon either side having, I doubt not, been freely given; yet even the small amount of costs incurred would be a heavy burthen to be borne by either individual. I can, therefore, only hope that a portion of those funds, which, when under the control of plaintiff, effected such visible and material progress in religion and civilisation here, may now secure defendant from loss, and that plaintiff may also be protected by the large and loyal community that worship with him.

MR. JUSTICE COPE.

IN delivering my judgment in this case, I am relieved from much, that I should otherwise have desired to say, by the very able judgment of the learned Chief Justice; and, were it not that the case is one of so much importance to the interests, if not of the general public, at least of a large proportion of the inhabitants of this Colony, and probably of a very much larger portion of members of the English Church in other parts of Her Majesty's dominions, and that these questions have already attracted the notice, and engaged the attention, of the most learned and respected in the land of our mother country, I should have been almost content on this occasion with the mere expression of my opinion of concurrence in the views enunciated by the respected head of this Court, although differing with him in my decree thereon. I readily endorse those views in sustenance of my own conclusions, and desire therefore to adopt his reasonings with reference thereto.

I cannot, however, but regret that, in a case of such importance, the Court should not be found to be unanimous on the two most important matters of consideration therein: that with reference to the validity of Her Majesty's Letters Patent, creating the Bishopric of Natal, and that which respects the Bishop's jurisdiction thereunder. Had we been so unanimous, it might have prevented the necessity of my enlarging on the various points which we have had to consider, some of which have not been so fully noticed by the Chief Justice in his judgment, nor I think by Mr. Justice Phillips (although I am sure well weighed by each of them also), as I deem it advisable they should be; inasmuch as in the several decisions which have been given in the highest courts at home, with respect to the powers conferred by these Letters Patent, and partially also with reference to their validity, there appear to be contrarieties of opinion entertained

by the several learned judges who have given their judgments thereon, specially so in the case of the Bishop of Natal against the Bishop of Capetown, adverse in many respects to the conclusions of myself and the Chief Justice in this case.

It is, therefore, to be regretted, that neither I nor my colleagues have been able, in the consideration of these questions, to obtain the perusal of the Letters Patent, or Orders in Council of Her Majesty (whichever they may really be), by virtue of which the Cape Government had powers of legislation conferred on it, viz., the assumed Letters Patent of 1833, and those subsequent thereto; and that this Court, in arriving at its judgment with regard to such important points, is, therefore, compelled to be content with the perusal of those Imperial documents which are in print in this Colony.

The first of these which I mention is a proclamation by the Governor of the Cape Colony, dated 12th May 1843, notifying that the district of Natal would be adopted by Her Majesty as a British Colony, and taken under the protection of the Crown; next, Her Majesty's Letters Patent, annexing Natal to the Colony of the Cape, date 31st May 1844; next, the Letters Patent, constituting Natal a separate government from that of the Cape Colony, date 30th April 1845; next, the proclamation of Ordinance No. 14, 1845, creating a District Court for Natal, date 30th December 1845 (since abolished by revocation and constitution of new Court); next, the Letters Patent constituting a Legislative Council for Natal, date 2nd March 1847; next, the proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor of Natal, that Her Majesty had created the district of Natal into a distinct and separate Bishopric, and constituted the town of Pietermaritzburg a city, date 11th February 1854, and the Letters Patent creating the Bishopric of Natal, date 23rd November 1853; all which are to be found *in extenso* in Moodie's Ordinances and Proclamations for the Colony of Natal, vol. II., pp. 9, 12, 14, 21, 31, 99, and 100; next, the Letters Patent, constituting the present representative Council for Natal, or legislature thereof, date 15th July 1856; next, the Letters Patent or Charter of Justice for the Cape Colony, constituting the Supreme Court there, date 4th May 1832; and lastly, the Law No. 10, 1857, of this Colony of Natal, for the better administration of justice within the same, by which this Supreme Court was constituted.

To most of these I shall hereafter take the opportunity of referring more particularly. But I have to remark that this Bench has thus been compelled, after an earnest inquiry in those quarters where it was likely that copies of those absent Imperial documents could be obtained, to draw their conclusions as to the validity of the Bishop's Letters Patent, and the probable contents of those documents, from the recitals and contents of the other Imperial or governmental documents which I have just enumerated. Some of these the Chief Justice has referred to or mentioned. I also propose to refer to nearly all of them specifically, with a view to strengthen the force of his and my conclusions on the question of the validity of the Bishop's Letters Patent, and to show that we have arrived at those conclusions after a carefully consideration of all the documents in our power affecting this question.

I would also observe that without such a deliberate consideration of these specified documents, which, in the judgments previously given, have been only referred to generally, as constituting "legislative institutions," or "independent legislatures," but, apparently, have never been actually examined or considered by either the Judicial Committee of Appeal, or the Master of the Rolls, in the cases that have been before them, it must have been almost, if not wholly, impossible for either the learned judges of Her Majesty's Council of Appeal, or the learned Master of the Rolls, Lord Romilly, and still more so for the judges of the Supreme Court of the Cape Colony, and particularly for this Court, to have arrived at any such conclusions or judgment on the subject of the validity or non-validity of these Letters Patent, and of the legal powers thereby conferred, either in whole or in part, as could be, or even be deemed to be, conclusive authorities on the question.

I would further observe, as preliminary to my review of these documents, that the Bishop of Natal appears to me to have placed his alleged rights before the Court in this case, by his pleadings, or by his arguments and evidence, under the following aspect. He contends that, by virtue of his consecrated office, and of his creation and constitution as Bishop under these Letters Patent, he has the right to ask this Court,—(i.) to sustain by its judicial sentence his personal decree, set out in the pleadings herein, against the reverend defendant, as being a legal
sentence

sentence, which he had the power or authority, under his Letters Patent, to pass ;— (ii.) in case this Court should be of opinion that he has not the full power or authority he so claims to have, but only a limited power, under the circumstances and facts of the case which he has submitted for its consideration, to grant its sentence and decree to the like effect. In other words, he asks that this Court should confirm or approve his sentence or decision one way or the other ; and I think his Lordship has instituted his proceedings wisely in this respect. He further submits that he is also entitled to a like judgment in his favour, as an original judgment or sentence of this Court, on grounds of contract between himself and the defendant, and as being trustee of the several church properties, which are set forth in the pleadings, with reference to which the lamented differences and disputes between himself and the reverend defendant have arisen. These are the questions which this Court has had to consider and deal with ; and I need not add, it is competent for the Court to adopt or reject any of the rights so claimed, in whole or in part.

My learned brother, Mr. Phillips, does not, it appears, consider himself warranted in sustaining the conclusions I have arrived at, either with respect to the plaintiff's inherent powers or authorities, *qua* Bishop designate of Natal, or those delegated to him by virtue of his Letters Patent. And, perhaps, in the absence of the particular Imperial Acts to which I have before alluded, and from which it has been concluded that this Colony possessed an "*independent*" legislature at the time when the Letters Patent were granted to the Bishop, and without having more conclusive evidence as to the fact of this Colony being a Crown Colony at the time when such Letters Patent were granted, my learned brother Phillips, sitting as we do in this case as jurymen as well as judges, may be right in his conclusions, or at all events correct in arriving at a judgment or verdict, which in Scottish parlance would be that of "not proven." It will, be perceived, however, that he is in accord with the rest of the Bench on the question of property, that is to say, on the plaintiff's rights as the duly recognised trustee of the church lands and properties mentioned in the pleadings in this cause.

I would also take the opportunity of making one further preliminary observation, viz., that it appears to me that the very admirable and comprehensive judgment of the Master of the Rolls in the case of the Bishop of Natal v. Gladstone and Others, is not in conflict with the decision of the Privy Council in the case of the Bishop of Natal against the Bishop of Capetown. As it seems to me, Lord Romilly, in that judgment, reconciles, and most ably, the seeming difference between the two leading judicial decisions on the subject of a colonial bishop's Letters Patent and powers ; and he clearly and fully shows and decides how far the Bishop of Natal's and the Bishop of Capetown's, as well as the plaintiff's and defendant's, legal differences and disputes are cognisable, and also how far the powers claimed by these colonial bishops over their particular clergy — *notwithstanding the above-mentioned assumed "independent legislatures" or "legislative institutions,"* — are not only valid, but are so consistently with the dicta of Her Majesty's most Honourable Judicial Privy Council, in the two cases of Long v. The Bishop of Capetown and the Bishop of Natal v. The Bishop of Capetown. I therefore also adopt his conclusions, availing myself of his greater legal lore ; and I should desire to import into this my judgment the whole of his judgment that has any reference to the points in issue. Accordingly, before concluding, I shall quote from his dicta in support of the opinions entertained by myself. And I may state that the decision of the learned Master of the Rolls alone would have induced me to approve most of the rights claimed by the plaintiff, even if I had been of opinion that his Letters Patent were granted at a time when this colony was not a Crown colony.

With these prefatory remarks, I shall now proceed to examine the Letters Patent and other documents or governmental acts, to which I have above alluded, as included among my means of information in this case.

I shall first refer to the Letters Patent, 31st May 1844, annexing Natal to the Cape. In these I find it recited that, since the date of Her Majesty's Letters Patent of 19th December 1843 (by which Sir Peregrine Maitland was constituted Governor of that Colony with its dependencies), it had seemed fit to Her Majesty to annex the district or territory of Natal to such colony ; and it is provided that the same should be, and it was therefore then so annexed, yet under the express provision *that no law or usage then existing there should by virtue thereof become in force in Natal* ; but, nevertheless, it should be competent for the Legislature of the Cape Colony to make and establish all such laws and ordinances as

to them should seem meet for the government of Natal, whether in conformity or not with the Cape laws then existing, subject, however, to their being made under like restrictions and reservations as were then in force there, and reserving to Her Majesty full power and authority to revoke or alter such Letters Patent as to Her should seem meet.

Next I would refer to the Letters Patent, constituting Natal a separate government, 30th April 1845. By these it is declared that Natal should be a distinct and separate government, to be administered by a Lieutenant Governor to be appointed by Her Majesty, who had granted to him all such powers within this district as by the Letters Patent of 19th December 1843 (being one of the Imperial Acts of which this Court has no copy), were granted to the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, *subject to the restrictions contained or referred to in the last-above recited Letters Patent of 31st May, and to such other regulations and restrictions as Her Majesty might thereafter make*, but with special power to the Governor at the Cape at any time to visit this district, and to assume the government thereof in person, and it being declared that during such his residence in Natal all such powers of the Lieutenant Governor should be in abeyance and suspended; and it was also provided, that nothing therein contained should abridge or take away the powers granted by the Letters Patent aforesaid to the Legislature of the Cape Colony to make such laws as aforesaid for Natal; and like powers were reserved to Her Majesty to revoke or alter these Letters Patent also, as to Her should seem meet. I would here observe, that both these above-recited Letters Patent were partly revoked by the Letters Patent, dated 2nd March 1847, and wholly revoked by Letters Patent of 15th July 1856.

I next quote the Letters Patent of 2nd March 1847, constituting the *nominee* Legislative Council in Natal, referred to by the Chief Justice. These Letters Patent,—after reciting the above Imperial Acts, and the powers of revocation and alteration therein contained, and proceeding to revoke so much of them as authorised the Cape Legislature to make laws for Natal,—did thereupon grant and declare that the Lieutenant Governor of this district of Natal (as it was still designated), and such three or more other persons as shall from time to time be by Her Majesty for that purpose named or designated by any instructions issued under Her signet, with the advice of Her Privy Council, shall constitute and be a Legislative Council for the said district, and shall hold their places during pleasure therein, and have full power to make and ordain all such laws and ordinances as may be required for the peace, order, and good government of the district, but with the express reservation of power to Her Majesty from time to time, as She should see occasion, to disallow any such laws or ordinances, and a declaration that the same should cease to be of force upon the publication of a proclamation of the disallowance thereof under Her Majesty's order. They contained a further restriction that the Lieutenant Governor should conform to all such orders as Her Majesty should see fit to make for his guidance therein, by any instructions issued under Her signet, and with the advice of Her Privy Council, and the additional reservation of full power and authority to Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, from time to time, as She or they should see occasion, to revoke, alter, and amend such Letters Patent, or any part thereof.

The next Imperial Act which I shall refer to (having cursorily alluded to the acts constituting and proclaiming the creation of the Bishopric of Natal, dated 23rd November 1853, and 11th February 1854, respectively)—is the Charter of Natal, as it is now locally designated, *viz.*, the Letters Patent, dated 15th July 1856, constituting the *representative* Legislative Council of this Colony.

It is, I think, unnecessary for me to enter into full details of its contents; but I shall notice a few of its special points and powers as bearing out my already declared opinion as to this district having been a mere Crown Colony or dependency, up to the period of the grant of these Letters Patent; that is to say, up till between two and three years after the bishopric of Natal was created. I do this with the view of showing the revocation by it of all previous Letters Patent affecting this district, and the even now still limited character of the legislative institution thereby created, and at this time existing. This Charter, in fact, consists of additional Letters Patent granted by Her Majesty; and I would here observe that they do not appear to have been granted under any previous advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council, but simply by Her own Royal Will and Pleasure. They first revoke the several above-recited Letters Patent, and an apparently additional one of the date of 15th January 1850, of which I am unable to find any public record, and all powers and authorities granted therein respectively,

and

and all clauses therein contained, except as next hereinafter mentioned with reference to the then existing Legislative Council of the said district of Natal, constituted by the Letters Patent of 2nd March 1847, declaring that it shall "continue to hold" and exercise the powers thereby vested in it "until the return of the first writs for the election of the members of the future Legislative Council, as constituted under and by virtue of these presents, and no longer." (I purposely quote here the precise words of the Charter, with the view of pointing out an interregnum in the Legislature, which may have an important bearing on the question of the powers of the Bishop of Natal, should it be necessary to examine the same with any such object.) And these Letters Patent then proceed to erect and constitute Natal as a separate colony; and, after declaring how the government of the Colony is to be administered, and constituting also a nominee Executive Council for assisting the Governor in such government, they provide and declare (sect. 6),—

We do hereby authorise and empower Our said Governor of Natal, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, to make all such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of the said Colony, *provided that the same be not repugnant to the laws of England.*

And, after proceeding to declare how such Legislative Council shall be constituted, viz., of four nominee members appointed by the Crown, and of 12 representative members elected by the Colony, and how these elections shall take place, and making many other provisions with reference thereto, and to the laws so to be enacted, the Letters Patent further give power to the Governor of this Colony, by any law to be enacted by him, with the advice of the Legislative Council, to repeal, alter or amend all or any of the provisions made by or in virtue of these presents, and to substitute others in lieu thereof, but under certain important reservations and restrictions therein specified. And they then grant power to the Governor of this Colony, with the advice of the Executive Council, to make grants of the waste and unsettled lands of the Colony, and also empower the Governor to appoint judges and other officers for the due and impartial administration of justice. And finally, they reserve to Her Majesty full power and authority to amend, alter, and revoke the said Letters Patent, as to Her should seem meet.

Time does not permit of my referring specially to the Charter of Justice granted to the Cape in 1834, nor to the law, creating here the district court (since repealed), nor to Law of Natal, No. 10, 1857, creating this Supreme Court, further than to observe that, by each of these, powers were declared to be given to the respective courts to take cognizance of all pleas, and to have jurisdiction over all causes, whether civil, criminal, or mixed, with jurisdiction over Her Majesty's subjects, and all other persons whomsoever, residing and being in such colony or district, in as ample a manner as such several courts could legally exercise such powers, and as had been at any time customary.

With these quotations or summaries, I shall now proceed in the further exposition of my judgment in this case. Looking at all these Imperial documents or governmental acts, I would ask, from which of them can it be said that Natal possessed an *independent* legislature, or even more than merely nominal legislative institutions, at the time when Her Majesty granted the Letters Patent of the Bishop of Natal? Or by which one or more of them had Her Majesty divested Herself of the Royal rights and privileges of the Crown, as inherent in the Sovereign, in respect of all such of Her Majesty's dominions, as have not had an independent legislature or constitution granted by Her, a prerogative of which the Crown cannot be deprived except by its own consent and by express deed of cession, or by illegal force?

Every one of these Imperial or governmental documents is, however, expressly declared to be granted, subject not merely to alterations or amendments, but to absolute revocation at the Royal Will and Pleasure. And even the present Charter or Letters Patent from Her Majesty, by which She really does appear to have entered into a compact with her subjects here, and so divested Herself of some of those Royal rights and privileges, is a limited charter in many respects. Thus, for instance, the "Roman Dutch Law," as "accepted and administered in the legal tribunals of the Cape Colony," has been declared to be the law of this Colony. And yet, while Her Majesty has now granted to the Colony the aforesaid representative legislative institutions, and with power to alter such Charter, this Charter contains the express provision, that any laws which may

be made, by virtue of the powers so conferred, shall not be repugnant to "the laws of England," instead of to "the Roman Dutch Law." She has, moreover, as Sovereign, again reserved therein to Herself and her successors, the right to alter or amend, or even revoke, such Charter, in case She should deem it advisable.

Viewing, therefore, these documents here recited up to the grant of the Charter of Natal in this light; seeing that, for a time, and that, comparatively, but a very short time (some three or four years), while this district was annexed as a dependency to the Cape Colony, the so-called "independent legislature" of the Cape (but of which no evidence has been led by the defendant), was specially empowered by Her Majesty (and only so with reference expressly to this Colony, then a district of the Cape) to make laws or ordinances for the management, order, or good government thereof, but with the reservation of the powers of alteration, amendment, or revocation I have before alluded to; observing, also, that the subsequent creation of a Legislative Council in Natal was only that of a *nominee* Council, and that the inhabitants of this Colony had neither voice nor part in the making of any laws, by either of the said Councils; I cannot but conclude that all these alleged "Legislative Institutions," and the so-called "independent Legislature" of Natal, prove the utterly prostrate and entirely dependant state and condition of the inhabitants of this district at that time; and I cannot but deem the plaintiff's argument on this point to be conclusive, and declare this alleged independence to be a delusion and mistake; and I point, consequently, to those very facts, and the means by which any such laws were made, as the best proof that this district was then a mere Crown dependency.

It will be seen from the documents I have quoted, as well as from the reference made to them by the Chief Justice, that the powers originally granted to the Governor and Council of the Cape Colony, to make laws for Natal, were revoked. But previously, as I have also shown, Her Majesty was pleased to constitute a separate government here, by a Lieutenant Governor, but not an independent one, the Natal Lieutenant Governor, and the government of the district, being at first (although the first arrangement was afterwards partially altered) made expressly subject and subordinate to the Governor of the Cape Colony and its Legislature (1,000 miles distant). And even now, although possessing an amount of independence, by virtue of the existing representative institutions to which I have referred, this colony still labours under a degree of dependance and semi-control, which shows that, while Her Majesty has acknowledged and conceded to the colonists most of their rights as free British subjects, *she has still reserved to herself rights of government and control, which I think, it may be fairly contended, give to her the undeniable right of concurrent legislation here, by Letters Patent or Orders in Council*, more particularly in cases where no local legislative enactments exist, or even where they may happen to exist, provided that any further Letters Patent or Orders in Council are not in direct conflict or contravention with those existing laws.

The very fact that Her Majesty, in her Letters Patent granting our present *representative* legislature, has therein, instead of maintaining our local "Roman Dutch Law," as established by the Ordinance No. 12, 1845 (and to be found in Moodie's Ordinances, vol. I, p. 1), and ratified by Her Majesty at the time, as the law of this district or colony, expressly prohibited the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Council of this Colony from making or adopting any laws that are repugnant to the laws of England, shows to my mind that Her Majesty's Government claimed to have, at the time of the issue of these Letters Patent, and consequently may still claim to have, and exercise in this Colony, the powers inherent in the Sovereign in Crown Colonies. And holding, as I do, the Queen's Supremacy in Church and State, I shall be one of the last of Her loyal subjects to express an opinion detractive from Her Supremacy, unless fully satisfied that such powers have been surrendered by express deed, under Her sign manual.

But may not these facts be carried further in plaintiff's favour, with reference to the questions opened up by the pleadings? Notwithstanding all the very talented arguments advanced before this Court by the right reverend the plaintiff and the very reverend the defendant, none have been addressed to the question (even although in the course of the discussion I threw out a hint that the subject was worthy of consideration), whether, inasmuch as all these local Letters Patent and Ordinances, granted or passed before the grant of the Letters Patent to the Bishop of Natal, have been legally revoked by Her Majesty under the powers reserved by Her, whereas the Letters Patent of the plaintiff have still been left, not only
unrevoked,

unrevoked, but wholly untouched by them, or by any other act of Her Majesty, or legislative enactment of any kind, the very revocation in question does not *per se* get rid of these alleged "legislative institutions," and "independent legislature," and *occasion the revival of, and thus give force and effect to, the powers and authorities granted to the plaintiff by his Letters Patent*, which it is contended are of no force here by reason of these institutions and Imperial grants, thus removing those assumed existing legal obstacles to plaintiff's having lawful episcopal power, and even ecclesiastical jurisdiction here, such power and jurisdiction also being in no wise contrary or repugnant to any extant law of the Colony. For, neither the Cape Colony, during the time when it legislated for Natal, nor this Colony up to the period of the grant of the Bishop's Letters Patent, or since then, has passed any law or ordinance in any manner interfering with, or even touching upon, any of the powers or authorities granted to the plaintiff by his Letters Patent, or bearing upon the question of ecclesiastical courts. And, except it should be held that the Imperial documents I have referred to have thus interfered, and deprived the Crown of its Royal prerogative and rights, which I humbly conceive they have not, or except so far as the law of this Colony subsequently passed, No. 10, 1857, establishing this Court and abolishing the District Court, by its giving right of jurisdiction in all causes, civil, criminal, and mixed, may possibly have done so, I hold that, if only by virtue of such revocation, and of no other legislation having taken place thereupon, the Letters Patent of the plaintiff became, and would be, of force and effect immediately after such revocation, and that by the very act of revocation.

As it may happen that the judgment and sentence of this Court may be appealed from by one of the parties to this suit, I have deemed it advisable specially to allude to this point, and to bring it prominently forward, in order, so far as this Court can, to assist in allaying all doubts, and with the view, if possible, of avoiding future litigation and expense in regard to these disputes, by securing in such event the opinion of the highest judicial court of the realm on all moot points, so that all parties interested in the result of this suit may be fully and definitely made aware of the legal rights and status of the bishops and clergy of the Church of England in this Colony, especially as the point seems to me to be a very material one for the calm deliberation of any such judicial court of appeal.

My observations have already been so lengthened that I should have terminated my judgment here, merely remarking, with reference to the questions of contract and the Bishop's powers as trustee for the English Church of this Colony, that the observations of the rest of the Bench, in their judgments, will doubtless have rendered any addition thereto by me unnecessary.

I consider, however, that I should not be justified, in so very important a case, in concluding my judgment without expressly quoting, as I said I should do, some portions of the judgment of Lord Romilly in the suit of the Bishop of Natal v. Gladstone and others. I proceed, therefore, to take extracts therefrom, in the order in which I find them in the report supplied to me of that suit. Passing over his Lordship's preliminary remarks, I find the Master of the Rolls says, under the head of questions now to be considered:—

This distinction is one of importance, and must be borne constantly in mind in this case. The Letters Patent of the Crown may be generally valid, and yet may be ineffectual to confer any privilege. The Sovereign may grant Letters Patent, creating a new Bishopric in those places where it is not forbidden by statutes, as, for instance, in one of the dependencies attached to the Crown; but the person appointed Bishop may be prevented by law from performing any of the functions proper to be performed by a Bishop. I must, therefore, examine every part of these Letters Patent in order to ascertain to what, if any, extent they confer powers or rights, which cannot legally and validly be exercised or enforced. In other words, the Letters Patent creating the see or diocese of Natal, and appointing plaintiff the Bishop thereof, may validly make him a Bishop, and confer upon him certain powers which he may legally exercise, and yet at the same time may also purport to give him other powers which he cannot exercise. If, however, this should turn out to be the fact, the circumstances, that such excess of power is attempted to be conferred in and by the Letters Patent, *does not render them wholly invalid, or vitiate that portion of them which confers powers which may be legally exercised.* . . .

It is not disputed, *indeed it could not be disputed*, that the nomination by the Crown of the plaintiff, and the consecration by the Archbishop of Canterbury, have conferred upon him the title and dignity of a Bishop of the Church of England, and also that he is thereby invested with all the powers and authority incidental to the Office of Bishop, so far as such powers can be exercised without *coercive legal jurisdiction* over his clergy. In

all the works I have consulted on this subject, the powers and authority of a Bishop are classed under three heads; *Ordo, jurisdictio* and *administratio rei familiaris*. The Letters Patent of the Crown profess to give the first two of these powers; they do not profess to give the third. The first, which is the power of orders, he derives from consecration. . . . By this power . . . he can ordain deacons and priests, he can consecrate and dedicate churches, he can administer confirmation. . . . These powers are not confined to one spot, but are universal, they extend over the whole world. But this, it is contended, makes him only a titular Bishop, and not a territorial Bishop, for that by this he has no see or diocese attached to his office. . . . And here I may observe . . . That in the Letters Patents, and in the judgments delivered in the Privy Council, the words "see" and "diocese" seem to be used as equivalent expressions. . . . The primary reason why a diocese, or, in other words, a limited territorial space, was originally assigned to a Bishop, was not, as I apprehend, because his functions or duties were confined to that space, but because, as the superintendence of a Bishop was found to be more effectual when exercised principally over a limited extent, a territorial district, termed a diocese, was assigned to him as the limits within which he should principally exercise his authority. . . . The Bishops of the English Church have equal and universal powers in this respect; but the ordination of deacons and priests, the consecration and dedication of churches, and the confirmation of young persons, is (unless in exceptional cases) confined to the Bishop of the diocese within which the exercise of the episcopal function is locally required. . . . In addition to the power of orders above-mentioned, the Letters Patent purported to confer on the Bishop of Natal and his Successors the episcopal power *jurisdictionis*, that is, power and authority over all rectors, curates, ministers, chaplains, priests, and deacons, within the diocese of Natal; and the Letters Patent direct that, if any person should conceive himself aggrieved by any judgment, decree, or sentence pronounced by the Bishop of Natal, or his successors, he shall have an appeal to the Bishop of Capetown, who should finally decide and determine the appeal. Beyond this, in the Letters Patent, constituting the see of Capetown, a like right of appeal is professed to be given from the decision of the Bishop of Capetown to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is finally to decide and determine the appeal. It is on this passage in the Letters Patent that the question has arisen. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council have determined, in the two cases mentioned, that "although in a Crown colony properly so called, or in cases where the Letters Patent are made in pursuance of an Act of Parliament, a Bishopric may be constituted, and ecclesiastical authority conferred, by the sole authority of the Crown, yet that the Letters Patent of the Crown will not have any such effect or operation in a colony or settlement which is possessed of an independent legislature." . . . In 1847, an independent legislature was created in the Colony of Natal, [on this point I would here observe, I consider that I have fully shown above that both the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council and the Master of the Rolls were under misapprehension or mistake, as nothing, that could properly be designated an independent legislature, then existed here], and, consequently, by the decision of the Judicial Committee, no coercive jurisdiction, such as that professed to be given by the Letters Patent, can, it is said, be legally exercised by him. Assuming this to be so, the question I have therefore to consider is, how far this declaration of the law affects the status and position of the plaintiff as Bishop of Natal. . . . It does not in the least degree affect the first class of his powers, *viz.*, that of orders. . . . But then I come to enquire what are the other functions conferred upon him by the Letters Patent, which he cannot exercise. The words of the Letters Patent on this subject are as follows [he then quotes them, and proceeds thus], I have failed to discover any of the functions or powers, so enumerated, which the Bishop of Natal is unable to exercise. No judgment of the Privy Council has deprived him of one of them. The law, as declared by the Privy Council's Judicial Committee, leaves all these functions to the Bishop, exactly as by the law of the Church of England they belong to that office. . . . But the power which the Letters Patent seem to intimate an intention of conferring upon the Bishop,—*viz.*, the power of enforcing obedience to his orders in the performance of these duties, and the power of removing any obstruction which may be interposed to prevent his performing any of the functions of a Bishop, this power is not given to him personally, nor to any officers of his or dependent on him. Is he therefore left powerless, and can anyone with impunity resist his authority? This is not so; but to enforce obedience to his orders, or to remove obstructions, interposed to prevent his performing his functions, he must have recourse to the civil tribunals which administer the law of the Colony, before which tribunals, the person who resists the acts of the Bishop may contest the validity or legality of the acts intended to be done by the Bishop, or the orders given by him. In other words, the Bishop of Natal can exercise all the duties and functions, and perform all the acts, which belong to a Bishop within the diocese of Natal, that he could if he were a Bishop of an English diocese, with this exception, that he cannot enforce the execution of his orders without having recourse to the civil tribunals for that purpose. The Letters Patent are, therefore, inoperative in that respect. They are also inoperative in that they purport to give an appeal to the Bishop of Capetown, and they also purport to give an appeal from the Bishop of Capetown to the Archbishop of Canterbury, to whom no such appeals by law can lie, so as to enable the Bishop of Capetown, or the Archbishop of Canterbury, to enforce the coercive jurisdiction in these matters, which the Bishop of Natal was unable to exercise. It is not, therefore, that there is no appeal in such matters: but the appeal, such as it is, the extent of which I shall presently point out, lies to the civil tribunal, and from the civil tribunal in the colony to

to the Sovereign herself in Council, who, with the assistance of her councillors, will determine the question between the parties. . . . He is a titular Bishop all the world over. He is a territorial Bishop within his see or diocese; and, with the assistance of the secular tribunals, he can perform all the acts and duties which belong to the office of a Bishop according to the doctrine of the Church of England. . . . It is, in my opinion, impossible correctly to assert that this necessity of resorting to the civil tribunals, instead of enforcing obedience by the jurisdiction of the church itself, can annihilate a see or make it cease to be a legal diocese.

By making the above extracts, comparatively short though they be, when compared with the very elaborate and lucid dicta and exposition of the law, which the learned Master of the Rolls enunciated, and in my humble judgment maintained, by the simplest, clearest, and most convincing arguments, I conceive that I shall have done amply enough to sustain from his, *the most modern, and consequently very high, judicial authority of our English Courts*, the judgment at which I have arrived, whether as respects the powers of primary or secondary coercive jurisdiction of the plaintiff in this Colony under his Letters Patent, or his additional jurisdiction by virtue of contract between him and defendant in this case, which latter rights the Master of the Rolls has also as ably dealt with in his judgment, which are likewise conceded by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as being indisputable in cases of contract such as has been clearly proved to exist in this suit, and which, therefore, I conceive I need not further allude to.

Under such circumstances, and with the notorious fact that the judgment of Lord Romilly, as to the precise state of the law on the Bishop's Letters Patent, has been given with the full knowledge of the clergy of this Colony, and more particularly having regard to the fact, that the attention of the reverend defendant in this case has been specially drawn to that judgment in the various other cases which have been argued before this Court, and at which he has been present; with the further knowledge that no appeal against such judgment has been lodged by the Bishop's opponents; that on the contrary, his arrears of salary, claimed in that suit, have since been paid to him; seeing, moreover, that defendant has, notwithstanding, resolutely and determinedly resisted his lawful Bishop, as is shown by the proceedings before this Court, it appears to me that this Court is bound to deprive the defendant of his office, and of the other functions he assumes to hold or be possessed of in this Colony as a priest of the Church of England, in defiance of his lawful Bishop; and that this Court should also, as marking its sense of such conduct, and as an additional penalty for the defendant's so doing, condemn him in the costs of this suit.

My judgment would therefore be:—(i) affirming that the Bishop's sentence, as set out in the pleadings is a legal one, and may be enforced by him under his Letters Patent, and consequently confirming the same;—(ii) that in order to obviate any difficulty or doubt thereon, under the facts of this case, this Court shall grant the Bishop its decree conformable thereto, and the process of this Court for enforcing the same, if need be;—(iii) in concurrence with the Chief Justice, as to the Bishop's rights under the contract between him and the defendant; and—(iv) in concurrence with the rest of the Court, as to the Bishop's power as trustee of any property belonging to the Church of England in this Colony;—and with his costs of suit.

JUDGMENT OF THE COURT.—9th January 1868.

THAT the plaintiff's prayer for the confirmation of the proceedings or judgment and sentence of deprivation passed on the 9th May 1867 be dismissed. But judgment for the plaintiff, that plaintiff be entitled to the interdict of this Court, prohibiting defendant from officiating in any of the churches or buildings in this Colony, set apart for the uses of the Church of England, and in any of which plaintiff is trustee. As also, judgment for plaintiff, granting him the writ of ejectment, ousting defendant from the premises vested in plaintiff and known as the deanery.

Mr. Justice Cope dissenting, being of opinion that the judgment of the Court should have been for plaintiff as prayed.

Costs to be paid by defendant.

Mr. Justice Phillips dissenting.

By the Court,

(signed) *Arthur Mesham,*
Registrar Supreme Court.

SUPREME COURT.—14th January 1868.

LEAVE was given to the Rev. J. Green to appeal from the foregoing judgment, upon giving the usual securities for the plaintiff's costs in this case and in the appeal. But the Court unanimously refused to stay execution of the same.

The following statement was then made from the Bench :

The Chief Justice said, it had been suggested to him that he should give some explanation of his judgment in this case. He had consulted his brother Phillips, and was of opinion that no explanation was necessary, and therefore he would give none.

Mr. Justice Phillips said, he could not see that any explanation of the Chief Justice's judgment was necessary. To him it was as clear as possible. The Chief Justice held that the Bishop's Letters Patent were perfectly valid; and that, having been granted while this was a Crown Colony, they were as effectual as if the powers conferred by them had been embodied in an Ordinance. This being the case, it was unnecessary to confirm the Bishop's sentence. If that sentence had been wrong, he, the Chief Justice, would only have confirmed an error; and, if right, he would have committed the further error of confirming that which had no need of such support.

Mr. Shepstone stated that the Bishop was willing to allow the dean the use of the cathedral and deanery for the next six months.

PATENT ROLL.—7 Victoria.—Part 26.

GRANT for the annexation of the District of *Natal*, in *South Africa*, to the settlement of the *Cape of Good Hope*.—(9).

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, to all to whom these presents shall come greeting: Whereas, by Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster, the 19th day of December 1843, in the seventh year of Our reign, we did constitute and appoint Our trusty and well beloved Sir Peregrine Maitland, Knight, Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant General of our Forces, to be Our Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over Our Settlement at the Cape of Good Hope, in South Africa, with its territories and dependencies, as also of the castle and all forts and garrisons erected or established, or which should be erected or established within the said settlement, territories and dependencies. And whereas, since the date of the said recited Letters Patent, it hath seemed good to Us to annex to the said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope the territories occupied by Our subjects throughout the District of Natal, in South Africa. Now know ye, that we, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion have annexed, and do hereby annex, the said District of Natal to Our said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, as a part or portion thereof. Provided, nevertheless, and We do hereby declare Our pleasure to be that no law, custom, or usage, now in force within Our said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, shall by force and virtue hereof extend to and become in force within the said district of Natal, and that no court or magistrate of or within Our said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, shall by force or virtue hereof acquire, hold or exercise any jurisdiction within the said colony of Natal, but that it shall be competent to and for the legislature of Our said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, to make, ordain, and establish all such laws and ordinances as to them shall seem meet for the peace, order, and good government of the said district of Natal, whether in conformity or not in conformity with the laws and ordinances in force within the other parts of Our said settlement at the
Cape

Cape of Good Hope, any Letters Patent, Charters, Orders in Council, local ordinances, or other law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided always that all laws and ordinances so to be made as aforesaid, for the peace, order, and good government of the district of Natal, shall be so made in such and the same manner, and with, under and subject to all such and the same conditions, restrictions, and reservations as are or shall be in force within Our said settlement in respect to the making of laws and ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the other parts thereof. And we hereby reserve to Ourselves full power and authority to revoke or alter these presents as to us shall seem meet. In witness, &c. Witness, &c. the 31st day of May.

By writ of Privy Seal.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and authentic copy.

2 July 1868.

Joseph Burt,
Assistant Keeper of the Public Records.

[Letters Patent, dated 31st May 1844.]

PATENT ROLL.—8 Victoria.—Part 27.

GRANT erecting District of *Natal* into a separate Government.—(6).

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, to all to whom these presents shall come greeting: Whereas, by Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster the 19th day of December 1843, in the seventh year of Our reign, We did constitute and appoint Our trusty and well-beloved Sir Peregrine Maitland, Knight, Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant General of Our Forces, to be our Governor and Commander in Chief in and over Our settlements at the Cape of Good Hope, in South Africa, with its territories and dependencies, as also of the castle and all forts and garrisons erected or established, or which should be erected or established, within the said settlements, territories, and dependencies: And whereas We did, by certain other Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster, the 31st day of May 1844, in the seventh year of Our reign, annex the territories occupied by Our subjects throughout the district of Natal in South Africa to Our said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, as a part or portion thereof, under such limitations and reservations as in the said Letters Patent are more particularly set forth: And whereas We have deemed it expedient that the said district of Natal should be erected for certain purposes into a distinct and separate Government to be administered in manner hereinafter mentioned: Now, therefore, We do hereby declare Our will to be and by these presents do constitute and appoint that the said district of Natal shall henceforth be constituted and become a distinct and separate Government to be administered in Our name and on Our behalf by a Lieutenant Governor, to be by Us for that purpose appointed by warrant under our royal sign manual and signet to be countersigned by one of Our principal Secretaries of State, and in the event of the death, or absence, or incapacity of any such Lieutenant Governor, or in the event of there being no person in the said district commissioned by Us to be Lieutenant Governor as aforesaid, then and in every such case Our will and pleasure is that the said office shall be administered provisionally by some person to be for that purpose appointed by the Governor and Commander in Chief, or by the officer for the time being administering the government of the said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, by a Commission to be for that purpose issued under the public seal of the said settlement, which provisional appointment shall continue in force until Our pleasure shall be known and no longer: and We do hereby give and grant to such Lieutenant Governor for the time being, or to such person as may be provisionally appointed to administer the government of the said district of Natal as aforesaid, all such powers and authorities within such district as by the said recited Letters Patent of the 19th day of December, in the seventh year of our reign, are granted to and vested in

the said Sir Peregrine Maitland as Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope; subject, nevertheless, to all such restrictions and limitations as are set forth in the said recited Letters Patent of the 31st day of May 1844, in the seventh year of Our reign, as well as to all such rules and regulations as shall be made and established by such instructions as hereinafter are mentioned for the practicable and convenient exercise of such power and authority: Provided, nevertheless, and We hereby declare Our will and pleasure to be that it shall be lawful for the said Sir Peregrine Maitland, or for the officer for the time being administering the government of the said settlement from time to time, as occasion shall require, and as he shall be directed by such instructions as aforesaid to repair to the said district of Natal and to assume the government thereof in person and during such his residence therein, We do further declare Our pleasure to be that all and every the powers and authorities in and by the said recited Letters Patent in him vested in and over the said district of Natal shall revive, and that, during the same period or periods all and every the powers and authorities by these presents vested in such Lieutenant Governor shall be and are hereby suspended: Provided also, and We do further declare Our will and pleasure to be that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to take away, abridge, or alter all or any of the powers and authorities in and by the said recited Letters Patent given to the Legislature of Our said settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, to make, ordain, and establish all such laws and ordinances as to them shall seem meet for the peace order, and good government of the said district of Natal; but that the said Legislature shall have, hold, exercise, and enjoy such power and authority as aforesaid of making such laws and ordinances as aforesaid for the said district as fully and effectually as if these presents had not been made: and Our will and pleasure further is, that in the execution of the powers hereby vested in the said Lieutenant Governor for the time being, or such person so provisionally appointed as aforesaid, he do in all respects conform to and obey all such orders and instructions as shall for that purpose be addressed to him by Us in Our Privy Council or under Our Signet and Sign Manual, or through one of Our principal Secretaries of State; and We do hereby reserve to ourselves full power and authority to revoke or alter these presents as to Us shall seem meet. In witness, &c. Witness, &c. the 30th day of April.

By writ of Privy Seal.

I certify the foregoing to be a true and authentic copy.

2 July 1868.

Joseph Burt,
Assistant Keeper of the Public Records.

[Letters Patent, dated 30th April 1845.]

PATENT ROLL.—10 Victoria, Part 25, No. 3.

GRANT Establishing a Legislative power in the District of *Natal*.—(3).

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, to all to whom these presents shall come greeting: Whereas by certain Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster, the 31st day of May 1844, in the seventh year of Our reign; We did annex the district of Natal to Our settlement of the Cape of Good Hope as a part and portion thereof, and did thereby declare Our pleasure to be that it should be competent for the Legislature of Our said Settlement, to make, ordain, and establish all such laws and ordinances, as to them should seem meet for the peace, order, and good government of the said district of Natal, under such limitations and reservations as are set forth in the said Letters Patent. And whereas by certain other Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster, the 30th day of April 1845, in the eighth year of Our reign; We did constitute and appoint that the said district of Natal should thenceforth be constituted and become a distinct and separate Government, to be administered in the mode set forth in the said recited Letters Patent. And We did thereby further declare Our pleasure to be that
nothing

nothing in the said last recited Letters Patent contained, should extend, or be construed to extend, to take away, abridge, or alter all or any of the powers and authorities as were in, and by the aforesaid first recited Letters Patent, of the 31st day of May 1844, given to the Legislature of Our said Settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, to make, ordain, and establish all such laws and ordinances as to them should seem meet for the peace, order, and good government of the said district of Natal as upon relation being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear. And whereas We did by both the aforesaid Letters Patent reserve to Ourselves full power and authority, to revoke and alter the same as to Us should seem meet. Now know you that We have revoked and determined, and do by these presents revoke and determine so much, and such part only, and no more of both the said recited Letters Patent of the the 31st day of May 1844, and of the 30th day of April 1845, as empowers and authorises the Legislature of the Cape of Good Hope to make, ordain, and establish laws and ordinances for the peace, order, and good government of the said district of Natal. And We do hereby further grant, ordain, and declare, that the officer, for the time being, administering the government of the said district of Natal, and such three, or more other persons as shall, from time to time, be by Us for that purpose named, or designated by any instruction or instructions, or warrant or warrants, to be by Us for that purpose issued under Our Sign Manual and Signet, and with the advice of Our Privy Council shall constitute, and be a Legislative Council for the said district of Natal, and shall hold their places therein during Our pleasure. And We do by these presents further grant, ordain, and declare, that the said Legislative Council, shall have full power and authority to make, constitute, and ordain all such laws and ordinances, as may be required for the peace, order, and good government of the said district of Natal. Provided nevertheless, and We do hereby reserve to Ourselves full power and authority, from time to time, as We shall see occasion to disallow any such laws or ordinances. And We do declare that any such law or ordinance shall cease to be of any force or authority within the said district of Natal immediately upon, and after the publication therein by the officer administering the government thereof, of a Proclamation notifying the receipt by him of any such order of disallowance which Proclamation every such officer is hereby required to issue with the least practicable delay after the receipt by him of any such order. And We do hereby further ordain, direct, and appoint that in the enactment of any such laws and ordinances as aforesaid, the officer, for the time being, administering the Government of the said district, shall conform to, and observe all such orders as We shall see fit to make for his guidance therein, by any instructions to be by Us from time to time issued under Our Sign Manual and Signet with the advice of Our Privy Council. And We do hereby reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors, full power and authority, from time to time, as We shall see occasion to revoke, alter, and amend these presents, or any part thereof. In witness, &c. Witness, &c. the 2nd day of March.

By writ of Privy Seal.

I certify the forgoing to be a true and authentic copy.

2 July 1868.

Joseph Burt,
Assistant Keeper of the Public Records.

[Letters Patent, dated 2nd March 1847.]

N A T A L.

COPIES of the JUDGMENTS of the JUDGES of the SUPREME COURT of the Colony of *Natal* in the case of the Bishop of *Natal* against the Dean of *Pietermaritzburg*; And, of the CHARTER or other Instrument regulating the CONSTITUTION of *Natal* at the period when the Letters Patent of the Bishop of *Natal* were Issued.

(*Mr. Adderley.*)

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
22 July 1868.*

NEW ZEALAND.

PAPERS

RELATING TO

CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS

RESPECTING THE

TREATMENT OF NATIVE PRISONERS AND
OTHERS IN NEW ZEALAND.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
5 May 1868.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

SCHEDULE.

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
-------------------------	------------------	----------	-------

(The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell.)

1	26 March 1866 (Confidential.)	Enclosing letter which Mr. Cardwell caused to be addressed to the War Office relative to certain charges of alleged cruelty to the Maories	1
2	26 April 1866 (Confidential.)	Transmits letter from the Rev. T. W. Weare enclosing extracts from a letter which he had received from Colonel Weare, reporting atrocities alleged to have been committed by the troops in New Zealand	1

(The Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon.)

3	1 Nov. 1866 (No. 41)	Acknowledges Governor's various Despatches relating to certain acts of inhumanity alleged to have been committed. Refers to the impropriety of the language addressed to the Secretary of State. Suggests that the Governor should recall his Minutes of the 13th June and Despatch of the 30th	3
---	----------------------	---	---

(His Grace The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.)

4	1 May 1867 (No. 18) -	Acknowledges Despatches of the 12th January and 1st February. His Grace observes with satisfaction the Governor's expression of "the fullest and most unreserved apology" for those passages in his Despatch which Lord Carnarvon considered to have been couched in improper language	6
5	18 Oct. 1867 (No. 64)	With reference to Governor's Despatch No. 79, forwarding a petition to the Queen from the Legislative Council, praying that certain resolutions of the Council and papers may be laid before both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, desires the Governor to inform the Legislative Council that the papers will be presented in compliance with their prayer	6
6	26 Nov. 1867 (No. 77)	Acknowledges Governor's Despatch No. 89. States that directions have been given for placing the whole of the papers connected with Colonel Weare's charges before Parliament. Informs the Governor that the Address of the House of Representatives has been laid before Her Majesty, who commands his Grace to assure the House of Representatives that the proceedings of that House and Her Majesty's loyal subjects in New Zealand, will always receive the most favourable construction	6

DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR.

1	13 June 1866 (Separate.)	Refuting statements made that the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners, in answer to Confidential Despatch of the 26th March 1866	8
2	29 June 1866 (Separate.)	Enclosing Minute entered on the proceedings of the Executive Council on the receipt of Mr. Cardwell's Confidential Despatch of the 26th March 1866	9

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
3	30 June 1866 (Separate.) -	In answer to Mr. Cardwell's Confidential Despatch of 26th April, with reference to allegations that the troops had committed atrocities in the prosecution of the war - -	10
4	3 July 1866 - (Separate.) -	Enclosing letter from Colonel Weare with reference to a statement made by him in a private letter that barbarities were being committed by the troops in New Zealand - -	12
5	12 July 1866 - (Separate.) -	Relative to a statement made by Colonel Weare in connexion with the fact of Dr. Featherston being present at General Chute's camp - - - - -	13
6	24 July 1866 (Separate.) -	Encloses correspondence relative to statements made by Colonel Weare in a letter to Rev. W. Weare - - -	13
7	13 August 1866 (Separate.) -	Encloses letter from Colonel Weare expressing his regret at having, in a moment of great excitement, made certain statements in a private letter to his brother in England -	15
8	12 Jan. 1867 (No. 11)	Reply to Lord Carnarvon's Despatch, No. 41 of the 1st November 1866, relative to Colonel Weare's imputations -	16
9	1 Feb. 1867 (No. 18)	Further reply to Lord Carnarvon's Despatch No. 41 - -	20
10	7 Aug. 1867 (No. 79) -	Transmits petition to the Queen from the Legislative Council in relation to the statements made by Colonel Weare -	23
11	6 Sept. 1867 (No. 89) -	Enclosing an Address to the Queen from the House of Representatives, praying Her Majesty to cause steps to be taken to put an end to the practice which has grown up in some Imperial Departments of State, of receiving letters from Imperial officers, all knowledge of which has been withheld from the Governor - - - - -	24

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE REV. T. W. WEARE AND
THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

Number in Series.	From whom, and Date.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1	Rev. T. W. Weare to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. 19 March 1866.	Requests an interview for the purpose of submitting letters from his brother, Colonel Weare, relative to certain alleged atrocities - - - - -	27
2	Rev. T. W. Weare to the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon. 20 Aug. 1866.	With reference to the above letter states that he has just received a letter from Colonel Weare entirely disapproving his having made use of his private letter, and requests permission to withdraw the letter in question - - -	28
3	T. Frederick Elliot, Esq., to Rev. T. W. Weare. 30 Aug. 1866.	States that it is impossible to comply with his request, the letters having already been communicated to the military authorities, which have necessarily led to inquiries, and to steps on the part of the persons implicated - -	28
4	Rev. T. W. Weare to the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon. 17 Oct. 1866.	Renews his application to withdraw letters of March and April - - - - -	28
5	Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., to Rev. T. W. Weare. 25 Oct. 1866.	Acknowledges receipt of the above letter, and refers him to Mr. Elliot's letter of 30th August, informing him that it was impossible for Lord Carnarvon to comply with his request - - - - -	29

SCHEDULE.

v

Number in Series.	From whom, and Date.	SUBJECT.	Page.
-------------------------	----------------------	----------	-------

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE WAR AND COLONIAL OFFICES.

1	The Earl of Longford to Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart. 25 Aug. 1866.	With reference to Sir F. Rogers' letter of 20th March * transmits a letter, with its enclosures, from Major-General Chute in explanation of the allegations made on his conduct	30
2	T. Frederick Elliot, Esq., to the Under Secretary of State for War. 13 Sept. 1866.	Transmits Governor's Despatch of 13th June, denying that there was any ground for the assertion that the Colonial Government did not desire to be burdened with the expense of prisoners ; also transmits Mr. Cardwell's Despatch of 26th April, and correspondence with Mr. Weare - - -	31
3	Lieut.-General Sir Ed- ward Lugard to T. Frederick Elliot, Esq. 8 March 1867.	With reference to previous correspondence, states that the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief has received from Major-General Chute a full explanation, and that General Peel quite concurs with His Royal Highness in considering that explanation perfectly satisfactory - - -	32

* Printed as an Enclosure in No. 1, page 1.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1.

NEW
ZEALAND.
No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor
Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B.

(Confidential.)

SIR,

Downing Street, March 26, 1866.

I ENCLOSE the copy of a letter which I have found myself most reluctantly obliged to address to the War Office. I think it necessary to communicate to you confidentially the allegation it contains, that General Chute had declared that the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners. It is due to Colonel Weare that I should repeat to you what is stated in the letter addressed by my directions to the War Office, that it was not at his desire that the statements made by him in a private letter were communicated to me. I rely on you to take care that every effort shall be made by the officers and men of Her Majesty's Colonial Forces to secure the observance of all the humane usages of civilized warfare so long as any military operations continue, and that more especially now, when the services of the friendly natives are rendered so available on the side of order.

20th Mar. 1866.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Enc. in No. 1.

(Confidential.)

SIR,

Downing Street, March 20, 1866.

I AM directed by Mr. Cardwell to state, for the information of Lord Hartington, that he has been informed that officers serving on the west coast of New Zealand have received a semi-official notification through the staff of General Chute that the General does not wish any prisoners to be taken, and that the General himself has stated that the Colonial Government does not want the expense of prisoners. Two particular cases are alleged in which Maories have been deliberately put to death in presumed compliance with this notification: the one case was that of a wounded man shot by soldiers of the 14th, after an officer had directed that he should be left alone; the other was the case of an old man who was shot after having been taken and feasted with an old woman who escaped.

It is also stated that barbarities are perpetrated by the native allies, with the knowledge of our troops,—two natives, it is said, having been thrown on a fire, one alive, after being disembowelled, the other after his head had been cut off.

These statements are made on the authority of letters received from Colonel Weare, now commanding the 50th regiment, though not communicated by his wish or permission. It appears to Mr. Cardwell that such allegations proceeding from such a quarter call for serious inquiry.

I have, &c.

Sir E. Lugard, K.C.B.,
&c. &c.

(Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor
Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B.

(Confidential.)

SIR,

Downing Street, April 26, 1866.

I THINK it right to forward to you for your information, and for your report, so far as the statements refer to your government, the inclosed letter from the Rev. T. W. Weare, together with extracts of a letter which he informs me he has received from Colonel Weare, C.B.

I learn that Mr. Weare has made a similar communication to the Secretary of State for War, and do not doubt that a strict inquiry will be made in consequence by the military authorities.

2 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND.

I cannot for a moment suppose that such imputations, either upon General Chute or upon your government, can be made without meeting with such a complete reply as will show Colonel Weare's statement to have been altogether founded in error; but, on the other hand, I am not warranted in considering that they are made in bad faith, and must regard them, therefore, as calling for immediate and most serious inquiry.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B., (Signed) I have, &c. EDWARD CARDWELL.
&c. &c. &c.

Enc. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

SIR,

Hampton House, Hampton Bishop, Hereford,
April 23, 1866.

* Page 27.

WITH reference to my former letter addressed to you on the 19th March last,* I beg now to enclose to you evidence of further atrocities committed by the troops in New Zealand, under pressure, as would appear, from the colonial authorities, and I feel assured that by thus laying the matter at once before Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, I am adopting a course which will, without delay, arrest the further progress of this merciless policy, as well as give an opportunity for repudiating acts already done, which are a stain on the Christian character of the nation.

I have, &c.

THOMAS WILLIAM WEARE, M.A.,
Clerk in Holy Orders, and Justice
of the Peace for the County of
Hereford.

To the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enc. in
No. 2.

Sub-Enclosure in No. 2.

EXTRACTS from a Letter written by Colonel H. E. Weare, C.B., commanding 50th Queen's Own Regiment, dated "Patea, New Zealand, January 13, 1866," and addressed to his brother, the Rev. T. W. Weare, by whom it was received April 14, 1866, and forwarded to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, April 23, 1866.

"I am sorry to say I have a far worse matter to relate, which concerns us as a regiment. On the 7th, the day the general took the pah of Putaki, I was ordered to lay an ambush with 50 men to cut off fugitives. A party of five fell into it; one was badly wounded, and got away with three others, as the bush was so dense. One man was taken alive, unhurt, a Piperiki chief. The general received me very coldly on his arrival at Patea for taking this man alive, after his intimation of 'no prisoners.' However, I told him I could not order my men to kill a man after he had thrown down his arms and surrendered. This prisoner was taken to Kakaramaea, where the general encamped on the 9th, and kept there till the 11th, on which morning the general left at 3 a.m., and at 8, under instructions from the general, this prisoner was taken down to a gully, tied hand and foot, and then cruelly shot to death by some men of the 50th."

"I have written officially to the general to know if Captain Young had due authority and orders for this act, as otherwise we consider he has cast a stain on the name of the regiment."

"Since the leaving of Sir Duncan the true sentiments of the governor and his government have come out towards the Maories in their urging General Chute on to all these atrocities of killing and no prisoners, and they cannot get out of it, for *Dr. Featherstone, the Superintendent of the Province*, and a Government man, is moving about with the general's camp."

"The natives will be very badly off for the next six months, for they have no open land open to them now, and they must fall back into the bush, make clearings, and cultivate, which will take them six months at least. The friendlies took two men the other day, one a chief, whose ears they cut off, dried in the sun, and presented them to their chief, with the request that he would wear them on his watch chain—nice allies!"

"This wholesale confiscation should be inquired into,"—"as there is not an inch of open land left them in the line from Mount Egmont to Parakeno. If you want peace, you must give your enemy a chance of living and means of procuring food; at present they have none left to them. I hope the degrading and brutalizing manner in which this war is now conducted may be known in England, and the troops no longer be allowed to be demoralized by the colonists for their sole selfishness."

True extracts by me,

THOMAS WILLIAM WEARE, M.A.,
Clerk in Holy Orders, and Justice
of the Peace for the County of
Hereford. April 23, 1866.

To the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON to
Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B.

(No. 41.)

SIR, Downing Street, November 1, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your several Despatches of the dates noted in the margin, relating to certain acts of inhumanity alleged to have been committed by Her Majesty's forces in New Zealand and by our native allies, and in some particulars to have been approved or suggested by the civil or military authorities.

Separate,
13th June 1866,
page 8.
Separate,
29th June 1866,
page 9.
Separate,
30th June 1866,
page 10.
Separate,
3d July 1866,
page 12.
Separate,
12th July 1866,
page 13.
Separate,
24th July 1866,
page 13.
Separate,
13th Aug. 1866,
page 15.

I perceive with satisfaction, but I need hardly say without any surprise, that so far as these charges regard yourself and your government, they are repudiated by you with the utmost indignation. They are also withdrawn by the officer who made them, after having given you an opportunity of bringing to my knowledge various transactions which illustrate your watchful determination to protect the rebel natives from inhuman treatment not warranted by the usages of civilized warfare.

I recognise in these transactions your accustomed care for the Maories; I require no other vindication of your ministers than that which is afforded by your own disclaimer and by Colonel Weare's explanation or retraction of his statements, and I consider the charges against you and them to be completely disposed of.

I wish very sincerely that I could dismiss the subject with these observations. But, unfortunately, some of your Despatches are written in a tone which cannot pass, and which you cannot have intended to pass, unnoticed by the Secretary of State.

On the 26th March Mr. Cardwell communicated to you confidentially, and as it seems to me in no unfriendly tone, the substance of certain allegations to the discredit of yourself and your ministers which had been laid officially before him. It was not surprising that you should feel much indignation at these allegations and at their author—that you should desire to be acquainted with the words in which they were couched, and the name of the person who had transmitted them, and even that you should feel yourself bound to place Mr. Cardwell's Despatch, confidential as it was, before those who were affected by the charges of which it informed you. And all this you might very properly have communicated in fitting language to the Secretary of State. This course, however, you did not adopt. You laid before your Executive Council, on the 13th of June, a minute denouncing the statement made to the Secretary of State as a "base and wicked calumny," and concluding as follows:—

"He (the Governor) at once enters this minute on the proceedings of the Executive Council; he transmits a copy of it to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., and he at the same time demands, as he has a right to do, that copies of Colonel Weare's letters be communicated to him, with the name of the person who supplied this information to the Secretary of State, and that a full inquiry be instituted into the whole matter, and he declines to receive the communication as a confidential one."

This expression of your sentiments you convey to Mr. Cardwell in the following terms, without further comment or explanation:—

"I have the honour to transmit for your information the copy of a minute which I entered on the proceedings of the Executive Council immediately upon the receipt of your confidential Despatch of the 26th of March last."*

* Page 1.

You can, I think, be hardly unaware that this is not the tone or manner in which the officer representing the Queen ought to communicate with the Minister from whom he receives Her Majesty's commands.

It would have been difficult for me, with due regard for the office which I hold, to pass over this communication in silence. A later Despatch renders it impossible to do so.

On the 26th of April † Mr. Cardwell had already transmitted you much of the information which you had demanded in so peremptory a tone,—the name of Colonel Weare's informant, and the words in which some of his charges were couched; he had also directed the inquiry which you claimed.

† Page 1.

In the Despatch enclosing this information the following passage occurs:—

"I cannot for a moment suppose that such imputations, either upon General Chute or upon your government, can be made without meeting with such a complete reply as will show Colonel Weare's statement to have been altogether founded in error; but, on the other hand, I am not warranted in considering that they are made in bad faith, and must regard them, therefore, as calling for immediate and most serious inquiry."

4 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND.

* Page 10.

To this you reply on the 30th June,* the day following that on which you transmitted the minute of the 13th June, which I suppose from oversight had not been despatched by the previous mail.

I do not at present concern myself with so much of your Despatch as relates to Colonel Weare, or to the differences which unhappily existed between yourself and General Cameron. I have only to deal with it as it relates to Her Majesty's Government, and in doing so I wish to forget that any change has taken place in that Government.

You state, then, that this case being manifestly a shameful one, you could have wished that Her Majesty's Government had at last peremptorily put a stop to an unjust and pernicious system "by refusing, in accordance with the rules laid down for the guidance of Her Majesty's service, and hitherto, for so long a series of years, carefully and beneficially observed, to receive reports made in this manner, and by directing and requiring Colonel Weare to make them through the proper channel, and at the same time at least subjecting him to the reproof which he so justly deserved, for having made statements privately against his superior officers, which he should have made instantly and openly, or not at all."

Having thus stated what you consider Her Majesty's Government ought to have done, you proceed to deal with what they have done.

I have quoted the terms in which Mr. Cardwell expresses his confidence that the statements of Colonel Weare will receive a complete reply from yourself and General Chute, to whom they had been communicated.

I now quote extracts from your reply.

"You have been pleased to order me to make a complete reply to the imputations made upon myself and my government in the letters from Colonel Weare and his brother of the 13th January and 23rd of April last.

* * * * *

"The imputations come from an officer serving under my command, that is, from a junior against the senior officer in this government. They are not made openly and officially, through the head of his department, as Her Majesty directs shall be done, but in a private letter sent through an unofficial channel to the Secretary of State. This is a proceeding dangerous in itself, as being subversive of all discipline, and as an example which would be bad from any one, but especially so from an officer of Colonel Weare's rank and standing. It is also a proceeding which is in direct disobedience of Her Majesty's instructions.

"With every respect for yourself and your office, this proceeding is, therefore, one which I should, under all ordinary circumstances, feel it to be my duty in every manner to discourage and discountenance; I think it therefore especially my duty to do so in the extraordinary circumstances with which I have now to deal.

* * * * *

"On reconsidering these imputations, and the manner in which they have been made, you will, I am sure, agree with me that I ought not to be expected to make a complete reply to them, and that I act for the good of Her Majesty's service in respectfully but decidedly declining to do so.

* * * * *

"For my part I will not deign to deny such a charge so made, for it is only by denial that such a charge can be met; and with all due respect for your position, I must maintain my own, and I decline to answer or in any way notice this imputation against myself.

"I also think that I ought not to lower my ministers by attempting to make a complete reply to such an imputation, so made, against myself and them. I therefore decline to answer or in any way notice this imputation as jointly made against myself and them.

"Nor will I make any reply to the imputation, that in consequence of pressure from myself and the government, Major-General Chute and Her Majesty's forces have committed atrocities in this country.

* * * * *

"Though I have thought it due to myself and my position so decidedly to refuse to notice the imputations to which I have been directed to furnish a complete reply, I beg to state that if any cases of cruelty are brought to my notice, I will see that the fullest inquiry is made into them, and that ample justice is, as far as is possible, done."

On these passages several remarks cannot fail to suggest themselves. The ground of the expostulation—I should rather, perhaps, say reprimand—which you have thought it not unbefitting to address to Her Majesty's Government, is that they have not properly censured Colonel Weare for having sent through an unofficial channel to the Secretary

of State a complaint which ought to have been forwarded, if at all, through his official superiors. But when you wrote this Despatch you must have had under your eye Mr. Cardwell's Despatch of the 26th March,* in which the following passage occurs:—

"It is due to Colonel Weare that I should repeat to you what is stated in the letter addressed by my directions to the War Office, that it was not at his desire that the statements made by him in a private letter were communicated to me."

The letter to the War Office, a copy of which you also possess, contains the following passage:—

"These statements are made on the authority of letters received from Colonel Weare, now commanding the 50th Regiment, though not communicated by his wish or permission."

I do not consider this the place for expressing the opinion which I may have formed of Colonel Weare's conduct in making such communications to a private correspondent in this country.

Whatever may be the impropriety of his proceedings on the whole, I do not think that the Secretary of State was called upon to reprove him for an offence which he had not committed.

In the next place, it is no doubt the practice of the Colonial Service to discourage the transmission of representations from a Colony, otherwise than through the Governor, by sending back such representations to those who make them. In the value of that rule, both to the Secretary of State in England and to British authorities acting in distant parts of the world, I entirely concur. But it would be merely vexatious to apply such a rule to communications received from persons in this country. In such cases the practice is, as reason requires, to send the communication at once to the Governor for his explanation or report, and to take no decision (except in matters of exceptional urgency) till that report is received. This practice was accurately adhered to by my predecessor in the case of Mr. Weare's complaints. You consider that Colonel Weare should have been required to make his complaints through the usual channel. But this in effect was done. The complaints were sent back to his commanding officer with instructions, which obliged Colonel Weare either to withdraw or substantiate them. He chose the former alternative. But, in any case, I do not see what more regular or effectual method could have been adopted to secure that truth should be ascertained and justice done.

Lastly, I must observe on your statement that Mr. Cardwell ordered you to make a complete reply to the imputations made upon yourself and your Government. That statement, though not perhaps incorrect in its letter, is yet so framed as to convey an impression very opposite to that which I derive from perusing that passage in Mr. Cardwell's Despatch to which you refer, and which I have quoted.

All these inaccuracies, for so I am obliged to call them, acquire an importance which might not otherwise belong to them from the place which they occupy in your Despatch. They furnish the only justification for your repeated and studiously direct refusal to comply with what you represent as being the Secretary of State's instructions to you,—a refusal which becomes even more pointed, because what on the 30th of June you thus peremptorily refused to do in compliance with instructions, you seem, in fact, to have done independently of such instructions on the 29th.

I wish that it were open to me to misunderstand the character of that refusal, or to put a more favourable construction upon it. My strong sense of the public services which you have at various times rendered, and of your high character,—my recollection even of the circumstances attending your temporary recall from the Governorship of the Cape during my former connection with this Department, all combine to make it personally very painful to me that my first communication of importance to you from this office should be a Despatch of this nature.

I endeavour to make every allowance for the feelings of an officer who is conscious that he has rendered important services to Her Majesty, and who conceives himself to have been left without due protection from cruel and unfounded imputations. But it is wholly impossible that the government of the Colonies can be carried on if such language as you have addressed to my predecessor is to be applied on such grounds as you have alleged, by an officer representing Her Majesty (I repeat my words) to the Minister whose function it is to communicate to him Her Majesty's commands.

I will add no more now. I hope that a cooler consideration of this painful question will have convinced you of the impropriety of the language that you have used, and will lead you to take what appears to me to be the course which is due not less to yourself than to others, viz., that of recalling both your minutes of the 13th June,† and

6 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND.

your Despatch of the 30th.* In this hope I now refrain from considering what would be the duty of Her Majesty's Government should you unfortunately come to a different conclusion.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CARNARVON.

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B.

(No. 18.)

SIR,

Downing Street, May 1, 1867.

I HAVE received your Despatches of the 12th January and 1st February 1867,* relating to certain charges against the civil and military authorities of New Zealand, made in private letters by Colonel Weare, and subsequently withdrawn by him.

I observe with satisfaction your expression of "the fullest and most unreserved apology" for those passages of your Despatch which my predecessor considered to have been couched in improper language.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B.

(No. 64.)

SIR,

Downing Street, October 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 79,* of the 7th of August, forwarding a petition to the Queen from the Legislative Council of New Zealand, praying that certain Resolutions of the Council, together with the printed papers recently presented to the General Assembly of the Colony, "relative to the statements made by Colonel Weare, C.B.," may be laid before both Houses of the Imperial Parliament.

I request that you will inform the Legislative Council that these papers will be presented in their course with others relating to the affairs of New Zealand.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B.

(No. 77.)

SIR,

Downing Street, November 26, 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge your Despatch, No. 89,* of the 6th of September, in which you transmit copies of certain Resolutions adopted by the House of Representatives, and an address from that body to Her Majesty, expressing their opinion respecting the course adopted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies in relation to certain allegations made by Colonel Weare of the 50th Regiment, and praying that no such course may be again permitted; that certain conditions may be imposed or enforced on some of Her Majesty's Departments of State; that all the proceedings of the House of Representatives and Her Majesty's other loyal subjects in New Zealand may receive the most favourable construction; and that the

THE TREATMENT OF NATIVE PRISONERS IN NEW ZEALAND. 7

NEW
ZEALAND.

Papers respecting Colonel Weare's charges may be laid before both Houses of the Imperial Parliament.

I am to inform you that before the receipt of your Despatch No 89, directions had been already given for placing the whole of the papers connected with Colonel Weare's charges before Parliament. I am further to inform you that the Address of the House of Representatives has been laid before Her Majesty, and that Her Majesty has not thought fit to give any directions concerning it other than to command me to assure the House of Representatives of New Zealand that the proceedings of that House and of Her Majesty's other loyal subjects in New Zealand will always receive the most favourable construction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

NEW
ZEALAND.

Despatches from the Governor.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to
the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.)

Government House, Wellington,
June 13, 1866.

(Received August 13, 1866.)

(Answered, No. 41, Nov. 1, 1866, page 3.)

SIR,

* Page 1.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your confidential Despatch of the 26th of March last,* upon the subject of barbarities stated to have been committed by Her Majesty's forces under Major-General Chute, and by our native allies, in the district of country lying between Whanganui and Taranaki.

2. I have first to state, that I never, directly or indirectly, informed any one that the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners. On the only occasion when I was present at operations during which we had an opportunity of taking prisoners, 57 prisoners were taken, their lives were all spared, and they were treated with humanity and kindness.

3. I have twice since heard reports of prisoners having been put to death.

4. On one occasion I saw a statement in some local newspaper, that the troops under Major-General Chute had shot a prisoner who was said to have been known to be the murderer of a soldier. I immediately called the attention of the Minister for Colonial Defence to the subject. He informed me that I might make my mind quite easy regarding it, because he had been informed that it had been intended to execute this prisoner, but the Superintendent of the Province of Wellington, who was present with the General, hearing what it was intended to do, spoke to the General on the subject, who immediately sent orders that the man's life should be spared.

5. Since I have received your confidential Despatch I have again spoken on this matter with the Minister for Colonial Defence, who tells me that he subsequently heard that the General's orders arrived too late, not reaching the place until the man had been executed.

6. This is all I know in relation to this subject. My ignorance regarding it is undoubtedly to be attributed to the fact of the War Department receiving communications from their officers, even of a confidential nature, reflecting on myself, without such communications having been made known to me, and to the system, then very naturally adopted by the military authorities in this country, of making most meagre reports to myself of their proceedings, and refusing or neglecting to furnish me with copies of their reports to the Secretary of State for War. I have thus been deprived of that authority which lawfully belonged to me, and which the safety of Her Majesty's subjects required I should be allowed to exercise.

7. The second case in which I heard of prisoners being put to death was that of two prisoners on the east coast, tried and shot by our native allies. I found that this had been done from an official report made by an officer of the Colonial Forces who accompanied the Native Force. I called the attention of the Minister for Colonial Defence to the subject; the Government wrote me a strong Memorandum regarding it, and I issued orders to the native chiefs positively to abstain from such proceedings for the future, pointing out to them that the power of life and death over the Queen's subjects was vested in the Governor alone, and that no person could be put to death in New Zealand without my assent to his execution having been previously obtained. Since that time large numbers of prisoners have been taken on the east coast and have been well treated.

8. I have heard no allegation of other acts of cruelty in New Zealand, except in the case of the attack made on the native mission village of Rangiaohia by the European forces under General Cameron, one Sunday morning (the 21st of February 1864). I heard with sorrow those reports, but, for the reasons I have before stated, I could not tell whether they were true or not, and I was quite satisfied that, if true, they were

accidental, and took place under excitement, and formed no part of a system, but that they would be as much regretted by the officers and men of the forces as by myself.

9. I at present entirely disbelieve the barbarities stated by Colonel Weare, commanding the 50th Regiment, to have been perpetrated upon the west coast of this island. Colonel Weare either believed that they were or were not being perpetrated. If he believed they were being perpetrated, it was his duty to have reported the fact to me, that I might have instantly interfered to prevent the continuance of such barbarities, instead of reporting these in a private letter to some unknown correspondent in England, so that I did not hear of the circumstance until more than five months had elapsed, when any interference on my part was impossible. If Colonel Weare did not really believe that the barbarities were being committed, then it was equally wrong of him to make such statements as he has done in a private letter.

10. In either case, myself and Her Majesty's subjects in this country have strong grounds of complaint against Colonel Weare;—they, because he did not take those means which his duty required him to take, to save them from becoming the victims of such cruel atrocities as he believed were being committed; I, on my part, because he not only deprived me of my legitimate right of protecting Her Majesty's subjects, but made me appear to those at a distance to at least silently but willingly acquiesce in the commission of cruelties of so revolting a kind.

11. I shall forward a copy of this Despatch to Major-General Chute, and shall call upon him to take the requisite steps in regard to the line of conduct which has been pursued by Colonel Weare.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.)

Government House, Wellington, June 29, 1866.

(Received September 13, 1866.)

(Answered, No. 41, November 1, 1866, page 3.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information the copy of a Minute which I entered on the proceedings of the Executive Council immediately upon the receipt of your confidential Despatch of the 26th of March last.*

* Page 1.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Enc. in No. 2.

MINUTE entered on Proceedings of Executive Council of New Zealand, May 23, 1866.

The Governor has, just as the Executive Council was assembling, received the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell's confidential Despatch of the 26th of March, by which he is for the first time informed that a semi-official is said to have been made to officers serving on the west coast of New Zealand, through the staff of General Chute, that the General did not wish any prisoners taken, and that the General himself has stated that the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners.

The Governor denies absolutely and solemnly that he has ever directly or indirectly communicated to the General commanding the forces that the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners. He denies in the same emphatic manner that any of his ministers have ever made such a recommendation or suggestion to him. He states that he believes them to be incapable of so doing. He adds that if they had done so he would instantly have appealed to the General Assembly for support in resisting such a policy; and he fearlessly asserts that he would instantly have received from the Assembly the support for which he asked. He denounces the statement made to the Secretary of State that the Colonial Government had desired such a policy, as a base and wicked calumny upon himself and the Colonial Ministers. He at once enters this Minute on the proceedings of the Executive Council; he transmits a copy of it to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., and he, at the same time, demands, as he has a right to do, that copies of Colonel Weare's letters be communicated to him, with

10 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND.

the name of the person who supplied this information to the Secretary of State, and that a full inquiry be instituted into the whole matter, and he declines to receive the communication as a confidential one.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.)

Government House, Wellington, June 30, 1866.

(Received September 13, 1866.)

(Answered, No. 41, November 1, 1866, page 3.)

SIR,

* Page 1.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your confidential Despatch of the 26th of April last,* enclosing the copy of a letter of the 23d of April last from the Rev. T. W. Weare. Your Despatch also encloses extracts from a letter written to that gentleman by his brother, Colonel H. E. Weare, C.B., commanding the 50th Queen's Own Regiment, which letter is dated Patea, New Zealand, January 13, 1866.

2. These letters contain the gravest accusations against myself, the government of this country, and against the General commanding the Queen's forces, and the officers and men composing those forces.

3. Generally, I would remark on the accusations made, that they are, in as far as Her Majesty's forces are concerned, charges of enormous and atrocious cruelties, practised either by the troops or with their knowledge, such as partially disembowelling prisoners, and then roasting them whilst still alive, &c. &c.

4. Now what is done by Colonel Weare, C.B., under such circumstances? Does he, justly filled with righteous indignation, instantly report these acts to the Governor or the government of the country, that an immediate stop may be put to them, and their perpetrators punished? No, he does not do this. Does he instantly write to the Government at home, forwarding his letter through the Governor, and pray that instant orders may be sent out to put a stop to such atrocities? No, he does not do this. Or does he, as a just man and an officer should have done, openly, boldly, and instantly make an official report of these alleged atrocious acts to his general, and at once stop them in this way?

5. No, he does none of these things, but, in private letters addressed to a person in England, he details horrid atrocities, which he states have been committed, and alleges, that since the leaving of Sir Duncan Cameron the true sentiments of the Governor and his government have come out towards the Maoris, in their urging General Chute on to all these atrocities, and that he hopes the degrading and brutalizing manner in which this war is being conducted may be known in England, and the troops no longer be allowed to be demoralized by the colonists for their sole selfishness.

6. That is, according to the system pursued when Sir Duncan Cameron was in this country, by private letters or statements to editors of newspapers, or other persons, even sometimes from officers at his head quarters or on his staff, and, indeed, by Sir D. Cameron's own confidential and private letters to persons in authority at home, people in England were to be prejudiced in the most violent manner against myself, my ministers, and the people of this country. Ample proof of the justice of the statements I thus make will be found in previous Despatches of mine.

7. The result of this system was, for the Empire, a disastrous war, great and unnecessary loss of life, and expenditure of money; for the Colony almost ruin. For those who pursued it a large participation in honours and rewards; for myself, repeated censures, at least implied, and an absence for years of that public sympathy, from those in authority, so requisite to enable a man to struggle with cheerfulness and hope against great difficulties; whilst, unjust and wrong as was the conduct of those who were the cause of my experiencing this treatment, I am not aware that they were ever subjected to the slightest censure or reproof.

8. I could have wished that Her Majesty's Government had, in this case of Colonel Weare's letters, so manifestly a shameful one, at last peremptorily put a stop to a system at once so unjust and pernicious, by refusing, in accordance with the rules laid down for the guidance of Her Majesty's service, and hitherto, for so long a series of years, carefully and beneficially observed, to receive reports made in this manner, and by directing and requiring Colonel Weare to make them through the proper channel, and at the same time at least subjecting him to the reproof which he so justly deserved for

having made statements privately against his superior officers, which he should have made instantly and openly, or not at all.

9. You have been pleased to order me to make a complete reply to the imputations made upon myself and my government in the letters from Colonel Weare and his brother of the 13th of January and the 23d of April last. I therefore have to consider, in the first place, by whom these imputations have been cast upon myself and my government, and how this has been done; in the second place, what the imputations are.

10. Firstly, the imputations come from an officer serving under my command, that is, from a junior against the senior officer in this government. They are not made openly and officially, through the head of his department, as Her Majesty directs shall be done, but in a private letter sent through an unofficial channel to the Secretary of State. This is a proceeding dangerous in itself, as being subversive of all discipline, and as an example which would be bad from any one, but especially so from an officer of Colonel Weare's rank and standing. It is also a proceeding which is in direct disobedience of Her Majesty's instructions.

11. With every respect for yourself and your office, this proceeding is, therefore, one which I should under all ordinary circumstances feel it to be my duty in every manner to discourage and discountenance; I think it, therefore, especially my duty to do so in the extraordinary circumstances with which I have now to deal.

12. Secondly, the imputations to which I am now called upon to furnish a complete reply are that—

Since General Cameron has left this Colony the true sentiments of the Governor and his government have come out towards the Maoris, in their urging General Chute on to atrocities.

That atrocities are being committed by the troops in New Zealand, under pressure from the colonial authorities.

That the war is now being conducted in a degrading and brutalizing manner, and that the troops are allowed to be demoralized by the colonists for their sole selfishness.

13. On reconsidering these imputations and the manner in which they have been made, you will, I am sure, agree with me that I ought not to be expected to attempt to make a complete reply to them, and that I act for the good of Her Majesty's service in respectfully but decidedly declining to do so.

14. I have a duty to perform to that position in which the Crown has placed me. A person in this Colony chooses, in a private letter sent to you, to allege that myself and my ministers had secretly entertained sentiments of the most atrocious nature towards Her Majesty's native subjects in New Zealand, but had concealed them until Sir Duncan Cameron had left the country, and then, thinking we had found a fit instrument for our purpose in General Chute, had let these sentiments come out, and had urged him on to commit shocking atrocities.

15. For my part I will not deign to deny such a charge so made, for it is only by denial such a charge can be met; and with all due respect for your position, I must maintain my own, and I decline to answer or in any way notice this imputation against myself.

16. I also think that I ought not to lower my ministers by attempting to make a complete reply to such an imputation so made as against myself and them. I therefore decline to answer or in any way notice this imputation as jointly made against myself and them.

17. Nor will I make any reply to the imputation that, in consequence of pressure from myself and the government, Major-General Chute and Her Majesty's forces have committed atrocities in this country. If I had been base enough to have desired that they should commit atrocities, I should have known better the noble nature of many of the officers and men of Her Majesty's forces than to have dared to have striven to put a pressure upon them to attain such ends. Let any man try to do so who doubts what the result will be. If, in consequence of treacherous murders committed on their messengers of peace and on officers or men, they have judged any act of severity necessary as an example, and to save life hereafter, it is, I feel assured, with sorrow and sadness they came to that conclusion.

18. Though I have thought it due to myself and my position so decidedly to refuse to notice the imputations to which I have been directed to furnish a complete reply, I beg to state, that if any cases of cruelty are brought to my notice I will see that the fullest inquiry is made into them, and that ample justice is in as far as possible done.

19. I will also throw no obstacle in the way of the fullest publicity being given to your Despatches, and to Colonel Weare's allegations against myself, the government,

NEW
ZEALAND D.

and the troops. Every one shall have full freedom to make complaint of cruel acts, or of pressure put upon them, directly or indirectly, by myself or my ministers, to force or induce them to commit acts of cruelty, and a patient hearing of his or their complaint shall be secured to them, and full copies of all such complaints, if any, of the evidence taken upon them, and the decision come to, shall be without delay transmitted to you.

20. I mentioned the subject of the atrocities of which they were accused to some Whanganui natives, stating how distressed I was at the allegations made. They replied, "Why should you distress yourself? It arises from jealousy. These are just such stories as we should tell amongst ourselves if we were jealous of each other's actions. We thought the Europeans were superior to us; we now see they are as jealous a people as we are."

21. I beg you will set your mind at rest upon the subject of the statements made that no open or good land is being kept for the natives between Whanganui and Mount Egmont. The government assure me that their wants will be amply cared for. At present little or none of that country is occupied by Europeans.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to the
Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.)

Government House, Wellington, July 3, 1866.

(Received September 13, 1866.)

(Answered, No. 41, November 1, 1866, page 3.)

SIR,

SINCE I had the honour, on the 30th ultimo,* of replying to your confidential Despatch of the 26th of April last,† I have received from Major-General Chute the enclosed copy of a letter from Colonel Weare, C.B., dated the 6th ultimo.

2. Colonel Weare now states that his letters were private ones, written to a near relative in the freedom of family correspondence; that these letters merely mentioned certain camp rumours that were in circulation at the time; that he believes (trusting to his recollection) that in many respects the statements detailed in your Despatches are expressed in much stronger terms than those actually contained in his letters; that he now believes that there were no grounds for the rumours that certain prisoners were disembowelled and then thrown on the fire alive, or that a Maori was shot by soldiers of the 14th Regiment after an officer had tried to save his life; and that he regrets having in any way, even in a private letter, given the weight of his authority for such rumours.

3. The General having addressed the Secretary of State for War upon the whole question in as far as the military are concerned, it is unnecessary for me now to enter into the questions he has discussed. I will merely say that Colonel Weare's letter of the 6th ultimo appears to me to confirm the view I from the first took of this case, and to show that the course I have pursued in relation to it is the proper one.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

enc. in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Colonel WEARE to Major PITT.

SIR,

Auckland, June 6, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, relative to certain statements said to have been made in private letters of mine, the contents of which it would appear have been communicated to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. I deeply regret that any such use should have been made of any of my private letters written to a near relative in the freedom of family correspondence. I am unable to comply with your request to furnish copies of those letters, as none were retained by me; and with regard to giving an explanation of the grounds on which I made the statements they are said to have contained, I beg to observe, that though I did mention in my private letters the nature of certain camp rumours that were in circulation at the time, I believe (trusting to recollection) that in many respects the statements detailed in your letters as those which

I am alleged to have made are expressed in much stronger terms than those actually contained in my letters. At all events I now believe that there were no grounds for the rumours that certain prisoners were disembowelled and then thrown on the fire alive, or that a Maori was shot by soldiers of the 14th Regiment, after an officer had tried to save his life, and I regret having in any way, even in a private letter, given the weight of my authority for such.

A native, I have since heard, was shot under some such circumstances by some one, probably by the native contingent, who, I heard, likewise shot another native prisoner, after releasing him.

I do not believe I made such a statement in my private letter as that "officers serving on the west coast of New Zealand had received a semi-official notification from the Major-General's staff that he did not want prisoners taken," nor that two Maoris had been put to death in compliance with such, but I certainly myself understood that the Major-General did not wish prisoners.

Finally, I would again assure the Major-General of my regret of the use made of my private letters, which I in no way authorized, and I hope he will consider them as withdrawn.

I have, &c.

The Military Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.
Auckland.

H. E. WEARE,
Colonel commanding 50th Regiment.

NEW
ZEALAND.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to the
Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.)

Government House, Wellington, July 12, 1866.

(Received September 13, 1866.)

(Answered, No. 41, November 1, 1866, page 3.)

SIR,

I AM anxious that everything which has been stated as a fact by Colonel Weare, C.B., in the extracts from his letter of the 13th of January 1866, should be carefully examined, that you may on these points be put in possession of full information.

2. With a view to this being done I beg to call your attention to the following extract from Colonel Weare's letter:—

"And they" (that is, the Governor and the government) "cannot get out of it, for Dr. Featherston, the Superintendent of the Province, and a government man, is moving about with the General's camp."

3. On this I beg to state that Dr. Featherston, the Superintendent of the Province of Wellington, is an officer elected by the people of that Province; that he neither was nor is in any way connected with the general government of New Zealand; that I had nothing to do with his presence at General Chute's camp, and I am informed by my ministers that they had nothing to do with his presence there. At the same time I am of opinion that his position, his knowledge of parts of the country, and of the natives, and his general disposition and qualifications, rendered him a very fitting person for the General to have taken with him.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) G. GREY.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to the
Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.)

Government House, Wellington, July 24, 1866.

(Received October 15, 1866.)

(Answered, No. 41, November 1, 1866, page 3.)

SIR,

IN pursuance of the course I had the honour to inform you I should follow, of doing my utmost to have any circumstance of cruelty fully investigated, which Colonel Weare, or others, stated as an actual fact, I have now the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a letter I addressed to General Chute, asking that Colonel Weare should be called on to substantiate his statement that the friendly natives had taken two men, one a chief, whose ears they cut off, dried in the sun, and presented them to their chief, with a request that he would wear them on his watch chain. I have also the

12th July 1866.

14 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND.

honour to enclose copies of General Chute's reply to me, and of Colonel Weare's two letters of explanation to General Chute, which latter letters I regard as unsatisfactory.

14th July 1866.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

Enc. 1 in No. 6.

Enclosure 1 in No. 6.

Sir G. GREY to Major-General CHUTE.

SIR,

Government House, Wellington, July 12, 1866.

IN a letter addressed by Colonel Weare, C.B., to the Reverend T. W. Weare, on the 13th of January last, extracts from which have already been transmitted to you, the following passage occurs:—

“ The friendlies took two men the other day, one a chief, whose ears they cut off, dried in the sun, and presented them to their chief, with a request that he would wear them on his watch chain, “ —nice allies ! ”

I should feel very much obliged to you if you would call on Colonel Weare to substantiate the statements he has thus made.

The Hon. Major-General Chute,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

Enc. 2 in No. 6.

Enclosure 2 in No. 6.

Major-General CHUTE to Sir G. GREY.

SIR,

Head Quarters, Wellington, July 14, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of copies of a correspondence relative to certain statements made by Colonel Weare in a letter to his brother, forwarded to me in the private secretary's letter of the 4th instant; also of your Excellency's letter of the 12th instant.

As it is evident from the correspondence that I shall receive instructions on the subject from the Secretary of State for War, by the mail expected in a few days, I propose to defer making any remarks of my own on the matter until after the arrival of the mail. In the meantime, however, I think it right to place your Excellency in possession of the enclosed copies of letters I have received from Colonel Weare.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. CHUTE,
Major-General.

Colonel WEARE to Colonel PITT.

SIR,

Wellington, July 8, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, enclosing copies of a correspondence to Sir George Grey, K.C.B., from the Secretary of State for the Colonies containing extracts of a private letter of mine to my brother, and furnished by him without my authority, and calling upon me to state for the Major-General's information my reasons for making assertions of so extraordinary a nature.

In reply, I would beg first to express my deep regret that a private letter of mine, written to a brother, should have been used in a way I never authorized and never anticipated, and even the most private sentiments of so humble an individual as myself so largely quoted.

I will now, as requested, most respectfully submit the reasons which, influencing my feelings, caused me to give utterance to many private sentiments in a hurried private letter to catch the mail, which I should not have done had I had more time for deliberation.

The circumstances under which a Maori prisoner met his death at Kakaramaea, on the 11th of January last, created such a feeling amongst the officers of the regiment, as to the interpretation that might be put on the various rumours, and thus bring reflections upon the hitherto stainless name of the 50th Regiment, that they called upon me as their commanding officer to see that none was suffered to remain.

For this purpose I addressed an official letter to the Adjutant-General, requesting to be informed whether the officer commanding at Kakaramaea had due instructions for what he did.

It was while thus labouring under my anxiety lest any of the various rumours of the cases should be circulated to the discredit of the regiment, and before I received a reply, that I gave utterance to the sentiments in the extracts now furnished, but as they were merely my private impressions at the moment, and of a most private nature, and in a private letter to a brother, I must express my deep regret that they should have been so largely quoted, or any of the matter used in the way it has been,

or that any of the expressions should bear an appearance of casting an imputation on any one, and I beg respectfully that they may be withdrawn.

NEW
ZEALAND.

The Assistant Military Secretary,
Head Quarters.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. E. WEARE, Colonel,
Commanding 50th Regiment.

Colonel WEARE to Colonel PITT.

SIR,

Wellington, July 13, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, enclosing a copy of a letter from his Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B., to the Major-General commanding the Forces, requesting that I might be called upon to substantiate the statements therein contained.

With reference to that statement I hasten to place on record, that it never having entered into my mind to convey the meaning that these men were alive, I did not allude to it in my letter of the 8th instant, and that it was only on my attention being drawn this day by a friend that the expression would bear that interpretation, that I became aware of it.

I made the statement referred to in a private letter to a near relative, on hearing it from several officers whose credibility I could have no reason to doubt, and I trust that, after the explanation made in the first part of this letter, the matter contained in my private letter may be withdrawn, as requested in my letter of the 8th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. E. WEARE, Colonel,
Commanding 50th Regiment.

The Assistant Military Secretary,
Head Quarters.

No. 7.

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to the
Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.)

Government House, Wellington,
August 13, 1866.

Received October 15, 1866.

(Answered, No. 41, November 1, 1866, page 3.)

SIR,

ADVERTING to my Despatches of the numbers and dates specified in the margin, regarding certain letters from Colonel Weare, C.B., which had been laid by his brother before Her Majesty's Government, I have now the honour to enclose* a copy of a letter I have received from Colonel Weare, expressing his regret at having, in a moment of great excitement, given expression, in a family letter, to thoughts which had come hurriedly into his mind, and which he would not on more calm deliberation have felt himself justified in making or entertaining. Colonel Weare, in the same letter, apologizes as fully as he can for the injustice he has done in writing such letters to his brother.

Separate, 13th
June, page 8.
Separate, 29th
June, page 9.
Separate, 30th
June, page 10.
Separate, 3d
July, page 12.
Separate, 12th
July, page 13.

* Col. Weare,
C.B., to the
Governor,
4th Aug. 1866.
Major Gray
in reply, 7th
Aug. 1866.

2. As the whole question is under the consideration of the military authorities, I have thought I shall now best promote the good of the service by preventing the publication of any part of the correspondence relating to this matter, and by moving no further in it until your instructions, after you have received the present Despatch, have been made known. I have, therefore, determined to pursue this course, in which my Responsible Advisers have concurred.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 7.

Enc. 1 in No. 7.

Colonel WEARE to Sir GEORGE GREY.

SIR,

Wellington, August 4, 1866.

THE Major-General commanding having kindly granted me permission to address your Excellency direct, I venture to entertain the hope that you may be pleased to allow me that indulgence.

It is with a view of affording myself an opportunity of expressing my deep regret that, at a moment of great excitement, I should have, in a family letter, connected your Excellency's name, that of your government, and Dr. Featherston, with the utterance of thoughts that came hurriedly to my mind, and which I should not on more calm deliberation have felt myself justified in making or entertaining.

16 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND.

Having already submitted my letters of the 8th and 13th ultimo, explaining the circumstances under which my family letter had been written, and expressing my deep regret, as also my letter of the 30th ultimo, tendering my apologies, I would desire to submit to your Excellency that if they appear meagre or unsatisfactory it is not from any want of sincerity in either my regrets or apologies for the injustice I have done you and your government in the expression of those thoughts, but from the peculiar position in which I have found myself placed by the use made of my private letter, and I trust your Excellency will be pleased to accept this renewed expression of my apologies, and allow the extracts to be withdrawn.

His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. E. WEARE,
Colonel, 50th Regiment.

Enc. 2 in No. 7.

Enclosure 2 in No. 7.

Major GRAY to Colonel WEARE.

SIR,

Private Secretary's Office, Wellington,
August 7, 1866.

THE Governor directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant. His Excellency wishes that you had written that letter at an earlier date, as your doing so would have saved a very large amount of embarrassment both to the Imperial and Colonial Governments.

His Excellency desires me further to state, that the accusations you made against himself and the Colonial Government, which were received by the Home Government, and to which he was expected to furnish a complete reply, caused him deep and serious concern, but that he will transmit a copy of your letter of the 4th instant to the Home Government, and that, as he thinks it now out of your power to make any further reparation for the injuries you have caused to others than you have done in your letter of the 4th instant, he will, in as far as he or the Colonial Government is concerned, request that no further steps may be taken in relation to yourself in consequence of what you have done, trusting that an officer who has rendered such services as he has always understood you have done will carefully abstain for the future from inflicting such injury upon the reputations and feelings of other public servants as you have done in this instance.

Colonel Weare, C.B., 20th Regiment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. GRAY, Major, A.D.C.

No. 8.

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 11.)

Government House, Wellington,
January 12, 1867.

(Received March 15, 1867.)

(Answered, No. 18, May 1, 1867, page 6.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, No. 41,* of the 1st of November last, in relation to certain accusations which had been made by Lieut.-Colonel Weare, C.B., against myself, my ministers, the military authorities, and the inhabitants of this Colony.

2. I am very anxious not to enter into any controversy on this subject, and shall, therefore, make as few remarks as possible in relation to it; but as your Lordship has undertaken, upon receiving my reply, to pronounce a decision upon it, I beg to be permitted to state a few facts which have been overlooked, but a full understanding of which is necessary to enable any one to form a just opinion regarding it.

3. The main question which has sprung out of the correspondence under consideration has been overlooked; that is, the right of the military authorities to execute subjects of Her Majesty without making any report regarding such execution to the Governor of the country. This in one instance has been done, and it raises a question of the gravest importance, regarding which authoritative instructions should without delay be issued by Her Majesty's Government.

4. Colonel Weare's letters are treated in your Lordship's Despatch as private letters, communicated without his wish or permission to the Secretary of State. This is not, as I apprehend it, a correct view of the subject. Colonel Weare, in his letters to his brother containing the accusations under consideration, expresses, in language which cannot be mistaken, his hopes that the purport of his letters may be made known in England. I think a perusal of his letters will show that his brother, in making them known, carried out Colonel Weare's wishes, only probably in a manner different from that which he had intended. I feel satisfied, if your Lordship peruses the letters and

* Page 3.

Colonel Weare's expressions, you will admit that his intention was that the purport of them should reach the public.

5. A most objectionable feature in Colonel Weare's proceedings is now also dropped out of sight. I especially pointed it out in my Despatch of the 13th of June 1866,* in the following words: "Colonel Weare either believed that" these barbarities "were or were not being perpetrated. If he believed they were being perpetrated, it was his duty to have reported the fact to me, that I might have instantly interfered to prevent the continuance of such barbarities, instead of reporting these in a private letter to some unknown correspondent in England, so that I did not hear of the circumstance until more than five months had elapsed, when any interference on my part was impossible. If Colonel Weare did not really believe that the barbarities were being committed, then it was equally wrong of him to make such statements as he has done in a private letter.

"In either case, myself and Her Majesty's subjects in this country have strong grounds of complaint against Colonel Weare,—they, because he did not take those means which his duty required him to take to save them from becoming the victims of such cruel atrocities as he believed were being committed; I, on my part, because he not only deprived me of my legitimate right of protecting Her Majesty's subjects, but made me appear to those at a distance to at least silently but willingly acquiesce in the commission of cruelties of so revolting a kind."

6. I think that Colonel Weare, in attributing to me such wicked motives, and a connivance in shocking crimes, brought about at my instigation, and in then passing me by without calling my attention to them, and in allowing such crimes to continue unchecked until people in England could be appealed to, when it would be too late to stop that which should have been instantly repressed, virtually re-affirmed the wickedness of my motives, and made it apparent that it would, in his belief, have been useless to appeal to me. I also think that Her Majesty's Government, in leaving this point unnoticed, and taking his charges up, did not do me justice.

7. The imputations made against me were, that, entertaining the most wicked hatred of the Native race, I had concealed my real feelings whilst there was any one in the Colony to keep me in check; but that after General Cameron had left the Colony, my own true sentiments and those of my government towards the Maories had come out in our urging General Chute on to atrocities; that most shocking atrocities were being committed under pressure from the colonial authorities, and that Her Majesty's troops were allowed to be demoralized by the colonists for their sole selfishness.

8. Then specific acts of the most revolting cruelty were stated to have been committed, and in the plainest terms it was alleged that an attempt was made to force officers to murder prisoners who had surrendered, and given up their arms,—Colonel Weare himself having been made to feel that he was under the General's serious displeasure for not having committed a crime of this nature.

9. Upon the imputations I have above named, I understood Mr. Cardwell to say, as well as upon the other points,—

"I cannot for a moment suppose that such imputations, either upon General Chute or upon your government, can be made without meeting with such a complete reply as will show Colonel Weare's statement to have been altogether founded in error; but, on the other hand, I am not warranted in considering that they are made in bad faith, and must regard them, therefore, as calling for immediate and most serious inquiry."

10. If the conclusion is correct that Mr. Cardwell asked for and expected a complete reply to be given to these imputations (and it was upon that belief I acted), I think the course I pursued was the correct one. But in truth a still graver question rises out of this matter. I was an officer on distant service, acting as Mr. Cardwell's representative, and I think the imputations I have quoted were of such a character that I was entitled to his instant protection against them. They were mere surmises of secret motives of action on my part and on that of other public servants. I think he might instantly and indignantly have stated that he did not credit and would not entertain such suggestions of evil motives. Had our places been reversed, I would to the last have supported him against accusations of the kind, and in stern but becoming language have expressed my opinion of the conduct of the officer who made them.

11. On this part of the subject I would make one other remark. I do not think if such accusations and imputations had been entertained at all, that they should have been confidentially entertained, and have been made the subject of a confidential Despatch. This fact was more painful to myself and my Responsible Advisers than any other. I feel sure your Lordship will, on full consideration, admit, that knowing that such accusations against myself and my government are on record in the Colonial Office,

where hereafter they will be certain to be found by some historian, who must naturally conclude that there must have been some ground for believing them to be true, or that Her Majesty's Government would never have entertained them, or have stated that they regarded them as calling for immediate and most serious inquiry, that I only showed a just jealousy of the good name of my government and that of the people of this country in putting them on record here as a public document. This proceeding could have injured no one if the accusations were made in good faith, and the manner in which they ought to have been, and I believe that I did my duty to the Queen, and to the race to which I belong, in thus publicly and indignantly dealing with the question.

12. I beg now to remark upon my Minute in the Executive Council of the 13th June last.

Your Lordship expresses to me your opinion that I should withdraw that Minute, and then, in language the meaning of which I think I do not mistake, intimates to me that if I unfortunately come to a different conclusion, the probable result will be that I shall fall under the serious displeasure of the Queen's Government.

* Page 1.

13. When I wrote that Minute I had only received Mr. Cardwell's Despatch of the 26th March.* I then found that some secret accuser, whose name was not communicated to me, had accused myself and my government of being aiders and abettors in crimes of the most revolting character. His accusations were based on information said to have been furnished by Colonel Weare, C.B., an officer of rank, who had the best opportunities of knowing the truth, or the contrary, of what he stated, but who had kept back from me the information which was secretly supplied to the Secretary of State. This was confidentially communicated to me. This was my position when I entered on the proceedings of the Council my Minute of the 13th of June.

14. I have at the end of this Despatch enclosed a copy of that Minute, in which at the end of each paragraph I have briefly stated why that paragraph is essential to my defence or that of my government, and could not in justice to myself or my government be withdrawn, whilst the accusations against us stand on record. I earnestly request your Lordship, before coming to a decision, to read that enclosure, and I feel satisfied that you will find that each paragraph contains what is necessary for the exoneration of myself or my government from a specific charge, and that there is really not an unnecessary word in the paragraph.

15. If you consider, you will find that I was here doing my duty to the best of my ability, neither injuring or interfering with any one, when charges of the most serious and shameful kind were made privately to the Secretary of State against myself and my government. These charges emanated from an officer whose rank and position gave weight and authority to them. The Secretary of State entertained them, and sent them out to me stating that he regarded them as calling for immediate and most serious inquiry.

16. I was thus forced against my will to defend myself against charges of the most serious character. The only publicly recorded defence of myself and my government against one of the most important of those charges is contained in the Minute to which I allude, and I now infer that, the charge still standing confidentially against me in your Lordship's Department, stamped with the authority which invests it, unless I withdraw my defence against it, I shall be probably in some manner punished by Her Majesty's Government. I feel sure that this conclusion, if it has been entertained, has been unadvisedly come to. Such a thing was never done before as to accuse a high public functionary wrongfully of most atrocious crimes, and when he defends himself to the best of his ability and proves his entire innocence, to inform him that unless he withdraws his defence he will be subject to punishment. The rule is to allow great latitude in a defence; but I am satisfied that there is nothing in that which I have made which can justly be objected to. If its language is too curt, as also that of the letter in which I enclosed it, I was at the time beset by business and cares, and the fault, if such there is, should rather be attributed to those who forced upon me the necessity of making any defence against such accusations than to myself.

17. Moreover, others are concerned in this question; viz., my present Ministers and the General Assembly, men who have given me the most loyal and generous aid in many difficulties. I cannot give them up. I have defended them as well as myself; my defence of them I cannot withdraw, so long as the accusations, invested with the authority I have named, stand recorded in your office against them.

18. A confusion has crept into your Lordship's Despatch regarding the subjects on which in my Minute, and in my Despatch of the 30th of June, I deemed it to be

due to my position, and to those serving under me, either to afford or to decline to afford explanations.

19. Regarding every alleged specific act of cruelty I gave all the explanation which it was in my power to afford; I only declined to notice imputations which it was only possible to meet by denial, and which it was impossible to disprove, and which were of such a nature that I did not think a regard to the position I held permitted me to notice them.

20. In reference to the opinion your Lordship has expressed, that I have made use of improper language in the Despatch and Minute to which you refer me, I conceive that I should submit at once to your decision on this point, as you are the head of the department under which I serve. I cannot myself detect this improper language, but I may be a very wrong judge in my own case. Wherever, therefore, your Lordship may decide that any improper language may occur, I beg it may be withdrawn, and I offer the fullest and most unreserved apology for any such language of which I may have made use.

21. Your Lordship thinks I have done that which will prevent the Government of the Colonies being carried on; the present state of this Colony, and of the two races which inhabit it, will, I am satisfied, convince you that such is not the case. The great body of the Native race are now loyal in the extreme. In cases of local disturbances, they have, upon receiving my orders, raised considerable bodies of men, many of whom, without pay, or any allowance for the destruction of their clothing, receiving nothing but their rations, have taken the field, and, acting under the orders of the Queen's officers, without delay suppressed the disturbances which had arisen.

22. As your Lordship has so justly reminded me, I am the Queen's representative. It has been my misfortune that others should have wantonly accused me of having committed shocking crimes in that high office, and of having misused the powers with which I was entrusted, to give effect to my own wicked hatred of one class of the Queen's subjects, and of having put a pressure upon the army of a great and merciful nation to compel them to give effect to my most wicked and cruel desires.

23. I know it is one of the incidents of high office, of the nature of those offices which I have held, in which I have constantly had to act between races and parties embittered against one another by civil war or other causes, to be liable to accusations of this or some analogous nature.

24. I was quite prepared to meet the common lot of men whom accident or the wish of their countrymen forces into such difficult and unhappy positions, and I have endeavoured so to meet the misfortune which has overtaken me as might become the position I held. I had a duty to perform to the Queen, and the high office with which Her Majesty had entrusted me—a duty to my own reputation—to the Secretary of State—to my Responsible Advisers—to my fellow-subjects in this country. With such complex claims upon me, it was difficult to decide, with exactitude, the path which I ought to tread. I, however, decided to the best of my ability, and I have striven earnestly, and with perfect good temper, to come to the right decision. On a point on which my whole future reputation rests, I ought to, and must, decide for myself; and I believe that hereafter it will be admitted, if not now, that the course I have taken was becoming to my office, to the great powers with which the Queen and nation had entrusted me, and to my own long services; and I still trust that your Lordship will concur in this view of the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. GREY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Enc. in No. 8.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Executive Council, June 13, 1866.

"The Governor has, just as the Executive Council was assembling, received the Right Hon. E. Cardwell's confidential Despatch of the 26th March, by which he is for the first time informed that a semi-official notification is said to have been made to officers serving on the west coast of New Zealand, through the staff of General Chute, that the General did not wish any prisoners taken, and that the General himself has stated that the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners."

This is merely a necessary statement of a fact.—G.G.

NEW
ZEALAND,
—

"The Governor denies absolutely and solemnly that he has ever, directly or indirectly, communicated to the General commanding the forces that the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners."

This was necessary for my defence against a specific charge.—G.G.

"He denies in the same emphatic manner that any of his ministers have ever made such a recommendation or suggestion to him. He states that he believes them to be incapable of so doing."

This was necessary for the defence of my ministers.—G.G.

"He adds that, if they had done so, he would instantly have appealed to the General Assembly for support in resisting such a policy, and he fearlessly asserts that he would instantly have received from the Assembly the support for which he asked."

This was necessary to show the state of feeling here.—G.G.

"He denounces the statement made to the Secretary of State that the Colonial Government had desired such a policy, as a base and wicked calumny upon himself and the Colonial Ministers."

The most mature reflection convinces me that I ought to have made this statement for my own defence and that of others.—G.G.

"He at once enters this Minute on the proceedings of the Executive Council. He transmits a copy of it to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., and he at the same time demands, as he has a right to do, that copies of Colonel Weare's letters be communicated to him, with the name of the person who supplied this information to the Secretary of State, and that a full inquiry be instituted into the whole matter."

What I asked for was necessary for my own defence and protection.—G.G.

"And he declines to receive the communication as a confidential one."

My duty to myself and my ministers required me to treat Colonel Weare's accusations as public ones. If he made them honestly and in good faith, no wrong could have been done to him or any other person by the course taken; whilst I performed a mere act of justice to my ministers and the other accused persons.—G.G.

"The Council were unanimous in their approval of this Minute, and express themselves in terms of the greatest indignation at being thought capable of either countenancing or conniving at such barbarities and atrocities, and considered they had a right to demand the name of the person who had written and imputed to them such motives."

No. 9.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 18.)

Christchurch, Canterbury, February 1, 1867.

(Received April 3, 1867.)

(Answered, No. 18, May 1, 1867, page 6.)

MY LORD,

ADVERTING to your Lordship's Despatch, No. 41,* of the 1st of November last, and to my reply to it, No. 11,† of the 12th ultimo, I fear that, from my desire to raise in that reply no unnecessary questions, I have omitted one important point.

2. Your Lordship states in your Despatch, No. 41, of 1st November 1866, that I have made an inaccurate statement in a previous Despatch to your Lordship's Department, whilst, in truth, the inaccuracy arises from an oversight on the part of the person who supplied your Lordship with the information on which your Despatch, No. 41, of 1866 is based. I notice this fact, because if your Lordship took any action on the supposition that I had made an inaccurate statement, when I had not done so, and I was aware you were in error on this point, I might hereafter be blamed for not putting you right, when it was in my power to do so.

3. Your Lordship, in your Despatch, No. 41, of 1866, informs me as follows:—

"In the next place, it is no doubt the practice of the Colonial Service to discourage the transmission of representations from a Colony otherwise than through the Governor, by sending back such representations to those who make them. In the value of that rule, both to the Secretary of State in England and to British authorities acting in distant parts of the world, I entirely concur."

"But it would be merely vexatious to apply such a rule to communications received from persons in this country. In such cases the practice is, as reason requires, to send the communication at once to the Governor for his explanation or report, and to take no decision (except in matters of exceptional urgency) till that report is received. This practice was accurately adhered to by my predecessor in the case of Mr. Weare's complaints. You consider that Colonel Weare should have been required to make his complaints through the usual channel. But this in effect was done. The complaints were sent back to his commanding officer with instructions which obliged Colonel

* Page 3.

† Page 16.

Weare either to withdraw or substantiate them. He chose the former alternative. But in any case, I do not see what more regular or effectual method could have been adopted to secure that truth should be ascertained and justice done."

4. Colonel Weare's complaints consisted of two parts; firstly, accusations against myself and my government; and secondly, accusations against his commanding officer.

5. In as far as I was concerned (including my government), his letters were taken to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; the complaints they contained were received by him; they were sent out to me; I was told that they were such as to demand full and immediate inquiry, and I was expected to give a complete reply to them.

6. What passed between Mr. Weare and the Secretary of State for War I do not know. I assume, because I am now told so, that Colonel Weare was informed that he must either substantiate or withdraw his complaint against his immediate commanding officer; but of this I had no knowledge at the time, and I feel sure that your Lordship will, upon consideration, agree that that was a matter with which I had nothing to do, and that it in no way affected the fact with which I was concerned, that Colonel Weare's letters, in as far as they related to myself and my government, had been received, and were at once referred to me for inquiry and explanation.

7. The regulations for the guidance of Her Majesty's Colonial Service require that any letters complaining of the conduct of the Governor or Colonial Government shall be forwarded through the Governor; and it is stated that if this rule is not observed, the letter will be returned to the writer for the purpose of being forwarded through the Governor.

8. If a person in the Colony may write such a letter as that which is alluded to in the Colonial regulations, to some individual in England, and upon the person to whom it is written sending or delivering it to the Secretary of State, then it is to be regarded as not falling within the regulation, it appears useless to have established such a rule, which any one can so easily evade.

9. But great difficulties must arise in every case from the breach of such a regulation, in whatever manner this is effected.

10. In the case of Colonel Weare's letter to his brother, had it been returned to the writer, as the regulation directs, he would have withdrawn it, and such accusations against myself and my government would not have been put on record. If he had not withdrawn it, the Secretary of State, when I returned the letter, would have had full explanations regarding the several accusations contained in it, gaining all the information he required, without doing a wrong to any one. He would have stood in the true position of a judge, not of one who had taken up accusations, and who admitted that there was such ground of probability in them that inquiry must be made, and the accused persons put upon their defence.

11. If Colonel Weare intended his letter to be made public in that case, by the course he pursued he made it appear that the Governor and local authorities were so bad that it was useless to appeal to them, and that it was necessary to get indirectly at the Secretary of State or the public to have such great crimes brought to light. And, with every deference to your Lordship's department, I think that the Secretary of State, by entertaining such accusations so made to him, gave strong grounds for others to believe that such presumptions as those above stated rested upon some at least probable foundations.

12. If Colonel Weare did not intend the statements in his letters to reach the public, and they were hurried, passionate expressions of an ill-judging and irritated man, addressed under the seal of confidence to his brother, then the course pursued by the Secretary of State made an old and distinguished officer, against his will, accuse old and high public functionaries of crimes of which he did not believe them guilty, and of which he never had any serious intention of accusing them, and unnecessarily subjected high public officers to the pain of meeting such accusations.

13. I feel sure that the foregoing explanations will satisfy your Lordship that the expressions which I used in relation to this subject in my previous Despatches were strictly accurate.

14. I think your Lordship has not sufficiently considered the great questions which underlie the whole of this matter. Colonel Weare, C.B., made no report to the Governor of the country of circumstances he apparently believed, relating to the lives and welfare of Her Majesty's subjects. General Chute made no report to the Governor of the country of his thinking it necessary to order the execution of a man, or as to whether any inquiries whatever took place as to the guilt of that man. The Secretary of State for War and the military authorities leave the Governor in ignorance of the nature of their correspondence with General Chute and Colonel Weare on these subjects; he only inci-

dentally learns from the Secretary of State for the Colonies the tenor of one letter of that correspondence. Her Majesty's Colonial Department has, up to the present time, apparently supported the military authorities, in the fact of their having utterly ignored the existence of the Governor and the government of the country on these most important questions, which the constitution entrusts to their care. I assume that in these proceedings all acted according to the best of their judgment under circumstances of difficulty, but some rule should be laid down for the future, or old rules should be revived, and orders given that they should be hereafter strictly acted on; for such proceedings as have taken place impair the authority of the Governor and of the local government, and they weaken the security which should surround life.

15. In all countries in which civil wars, or wars of races, prevail, there is one party, it may be very small, in favour of violent and extreme measures. In this country, the General Assembly has, throughout the rebellion which has prevailed, supported me in not allowing death to be inflicted by the sentence of a court-martial. In a recent case in which prisoners were tried by a court-martial for murder, proved guilty and sentenced to death, my Responsible Advisers would not act upon this sentence, but sent the prisoners to be tried again before the Supreme Court of the country. With some, this line of policy was unpopular. In my belief, and in that of my Responsible Advisers, it was the right one. The small number of Natives in the country, the number of years we had resided amongst them in a state of peace, their continued decrease whilst the European population was rapidly augmenting,—the fact of so large a proportion of the Native population remaining loyal,—all seemed to take away every kind of justification which might under different circumstances be alleged as calling for acts of sudden and extreme punishment. We therefore steadily adhered to a line of policy which we trusted might in the future history of this country, if similar difficulties ever arose, be pointed to as an example which deserved to be followed.

16. But if it is believed that there is another authority in the country, superior in fact to the government, which can disregard it, and, acting upon its own will, adopt measures which the government will not adopt, then encouragement will be given to those who may be in favour of violent measures, and the difficulties of the government will be very greatly increased. Or even if, as in New Zealand, the vast majority of the people hold with the Governor and the government, and their line of policy, then the authority of the Home Government, even if it has only apparently supported the military authorities, loses some portion of that hold which it ought to have on the affections of the people.

17. I therefore earnestly recommend your Lordship to make such arrangements with the War Department as will prevent the recurrence of such difficulties for the future. I feel sure that the issue of such instructions as I asked for in my Despatch marked "separate," of the 3d November 1866,* and a direction that the Colonial Office regulations regarding correspondence should for the future be strictly observed, would go far to prevent the recurrence of what has taken place; but I think also that the Secretary of State for War should further order that copies of all correspondence with his department relating to colonial matters should be forthwith communicated to the Governor. I do not think it is either constitutional or convenient that the Secretary of State for War should correspond, except with the knowledge of the Governor, with his subordinates in the Colony, on matters relating to the lives of Her Majesty's subjects, or the proceedings of the Governor or of his advisers, or of the government of the country. This cannot be done without the Secretary of State for War assuming the responsibility of all acts which his subordinates may perform. It also, in practice, must, unless his subordinates are men of the most extraordinary judgment, lead to their acting independently of the local government, and probably indirectly setting its authority at defiance, or at least treating it with utter neglect, even on the most important subjects; whilst, as the local government have no control whatever under such a system over the general officer, and as he renders no report of his actions to them, and as they are ignorant of whether or not he renders any report of them to the Secretary of State for War, every constitutional rule which has hitherto been observed is in fact swept away.

18. Your Lordship has recently objected to the language I use in writing to the Secretary of State. I trust in this Despatch I have said nothing that may give offence. It is perhaps difficult to treat of such grave questions without doing so, but I have really desired to write in the most proper and becoming manner, and I believe that your Lordship will rather look to the magnitude of the interests at issue than to the precise words and form in which I have brought them under your notice, and that it will be to you a most pleasing duty to apply a remedy to the difficulties which have, perhaps not unnaturally, arisen from the separation of the office of the Secretary of State for the

Colonies from that of the office of the Secretary of State for War. The division of one office into two, each under a separate Secretary of State, naturally created what may be called a departmental feeling in the offices of the respective departments, and to some men it would become almost a duty to maintain and even extend the authority of the department under which they serve.

19. No difficulties need, however, arise from this cause that cannot easily be met by proper regulations, and I feel sure that your Lordship will have such regulations laid down.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) G. GREY.
 The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

NEW
ZEALAND.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 79.) Government House, Wellington,
August 7, 1867.

(Received September 28, 1867.)

(Answered, No. 64, October 18, page 6.)

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit a petition to Her Most Gracious Majesty from the Legislative Council of New Zealand, in relation to the statements made by Colonel Weare, C.B., which they have requested me to forward to your Grace, at the same time stating their earnest desire that your Grace would be pleased to lay it before the Queen.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) G. GREY.
 His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Enc. in No. 10.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, the Legislative Council of New Zealand, in Council assembled, humbly pray that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct that the annexed resolutions, which have been passed by the Legislative Council, together with the accompanying papers,* be laid before both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, in order that the unfounded charges which have been made against the Governor, the Government, and the inhabitants of New Zealand, as well as the refutation and withdrawal of these charges, may become known to the Legislature and people of Great Britain.

(Signed) F. H. BARTLEY,
Speaker.

EXTRACT from the Journal of the Legislative Council, dated August 2, 1867.

Resolved,

1. That the thanks of this Council are due to his Excellency the Governor for the prompt and able manner in which he has vindicated the honour of the government of New Zealand from the unfounded charges made against it on the authority of certain statements of Colonel Weare, C.B., viz.—of urging Major-General Chute to the commission of atrocities by Her Majesty's troops, and of permitting the perpetration of barbarities by the native allies—which have been stigmatized as “a stain upon the christian character of the nation.”

2. That the mode of correspondence which has been adopted, and the course generally which has been pursued, by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies towards the Governor and Government of New Zealand, in reference to the unfounded allegations of Colonel Weare, are calculated to impair the authority of Her Majesty's representative in this Colony, to prejudice the best interests of Her Majesty's service, and to cause injustice to Her Majesty's loyal subjects of both races in New Zealand.

3. That a copy of these resolutions, together with a copy of the “Papers relative to statements made by Colonel Weare, C.B.,” which have been presented to both Houses of the General Assembly of New Zealand, be forwarded to his Excellency the Governor for transmission to the Secretary of State, with a humble petition from this Council to the Queen, praying that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct that they be laid before both Houses of the Imperial Parliament.

True extract,
 L. STOWE,
 Clerk of the Legislative Council.

* The “Papers” transmitted with this Petition contained Despatches which are printed in this correspondence.

24 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND
—
No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 89.)

Government House, Wellington,
September 6, 1867.

(Received October 29, 1867.)

(Answered, No. 77, November 26, 1867, page 6.)

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a letter I have received from the Speaker of the House of Representatives of New Zealand, enclosing an address to the Queen, earnestly praying Her Majesty to cause steps to be taken to put an end to the practice which has grown up in some of the Imperial Departments of State, of receiving letters from Imperial Officers, all knowledge of which has been withheld from the Governor of the country, and making further representations which Her Majesty is humbly requested to take into consideration.

I have, &c.

G. GREY.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enc. in No. 11.

Enclosure in No. 11.

House of Representatives, Wellington,
September 5, 1867.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency herewith the copy of certain resolutions adopted by the House of Representatives yesterday, *nemine contradicente*.

I have, &c.

(Signed) D. MONRO,
Speaker.

Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-enc. in
No. 11.

Sub-enclosure in No. 11.

EXTRACT from the Journals of the House of Representatives.
Wednesday, the 4th day of September 1867.

Resolved,—

I. That the thanks of this House are due to his Excellency the Governor for the prompt and decided manner in which his Excellency replied to certain Despatches from the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying grave imputations against the Government of New Zealand, by Colonel Weare, C.B., which imputations this House deliberately repels and declares to have been most unwarranted and calumnious.

II. That this House is of opinion that the course adopted by the Right Hon. the (late) Secretary of State for the Colonies of receiving and investing with official importance private communications wholly unsupported by evidence, such as those of Colonel Weare, gravely reflecting upon the honour and Christian character of the people and Government of New Zealand, is calculated, notwithstanding that the charges themselves have been completely refuted, and have been acknowledged by Colonel Weare to be without foundation, injuriously to affect the reputation of the Colony, to embarrass the position of his Excellency, to impair the good understanding which ought to subsist between the Colonists and the Mother Country, and to prove hurtful in a high degree to the interests and relations of both races.

Resolved, That the following address to Her Majesty be adopted:

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's faithful subjects, the representatives of New Zealand, in Parliament assembled, beg to approach Your Majesty with the expression of our loyalty and attachment to Your Majesty's Throne and Person, and of our hope that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to take into consideration the representation which we humbly desire to make in relation to the accompanying papers,* presented by command of Your Majesty's Governor to both Houses of the General Assembly of New Zealand, on the subject of certain statements made by Colonel Weare, C.B., commanding Your Majesty's 50th regiment of foot.

These papers contain correspondence, during the years 1866 and 1867, between Your Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of this Colony, in which it is shown that Colonel Weare, in January 1866, while commanding a regiment in New Zealand, wrote to his brother, the Rev. T. W. Weare, M.A., a private letter containing statements accusing the Major-General commanding Your Majesty's Forces in the Colony, and also accusing Your Majesty's Colonial troops, of atrocious cruelties to the hostile natives, and alleging, with respect to the Governor and the Colonial Government, that "since the leaving of Sir Duncan" (Cameron) "the true sentiments of the Governor and his Government have come out towards the Maories in their urging

* See footnote on page 23.

General Chute on to all these atrocities of killing and no prisoners;" and farther alleging, with respect to the colonists, that the war was conducted by them in a "degrading and brutalizing manner," and that the troops were being "allowed to be demoralized by the colonists for their own selfishness."

This correspondence also shows that Your Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, to whom these statements of Colonel Weare were communicated by the Rev. T. W. Weare, forwarded them in a Despatch marked "confidential," and dated 26th April 1866, to the Governor for his report, so far as the statements referred to his Government, and further wrote in that Despatch the following words:

"I cannot for a moment suppose that such imputations, either upon General Chute or upon your Government, can be made without meeting with such a complete reply as will show Colonel Weare's statements to have been altogether founded in error; but, on the other hand, I am not warranted in considering that they are made in bad faith, and must regard them, therefore, as calling for immediate and most serious inquiry."

We have no wish to animadvert harshly on the conduct of Colonel Weare, who has unreservedly apologized for and withdrawn his statements; but we cannot refrain from expressing our regret that the circumstances on which he has chiefly founded his apology and his retractation, namely, his hasty adoption of "certain camp rumours," and the private nature of his letter, written in the "freedom of family correspondence," did not preclude him from expressing in such a letter his hope that its general purport "may be known in England."

We humbly desire to represent to Your Majesty our complaint that these calumnious imputations, unsupported by the slightest evidence, and emanating from a junior officer in Your Majesty's service, against Your Majesty's representative and Your loyal subjects in this Colony, reached the Secretary of State in a most irregular manner, and were so far entertained by him that he felt himself justified in referring them to the Governor for his report, and in regarding them as calling for most immediate and serious inquiry. We respectfully consider that it would only have been due to the dignity of the Crown, and only just to Your Majesty's representative and to Your Colony, that Colonel Weare should have been forthwith called on to make these charges through the proper channel, and in conformity with the rules of Your Majesty's service, and to explain why he had not at the time officially reported these alleged atrocities, and that the Secretary of State should have merely informed the Governor to that effect, and altogether abstained from any appearance of prejudging the case. We cannot but painfully feel that the course pursued by the Secretary of State has been a peremptory arraignment of the Governor and the Colony on grave charges which no one had openly preferred, and a demand rather on the accused to prove their innocence, than on the secret accuser to prove his accusation.

We extremely regret to be compelled to represent to Your Majesty, that in some of Your Majesty's Imperial Departments of State the practice of receiving from Imperial Officers in the Colony, letters, all knowledge of which had been withheld from the Governor, impugning the conduct of himself and his advisers, has been, as is shown in papers on New Zealand affairs presented by Your Majesty's command to both Houses of Parliament, repeatedly adopted during the last five years, notwithstanding the protests of the Governor; and we most respectfully beg to state, that such a practice is not only a violation of the express rules of Your Majesty's service, and a manifest injustice to the Governor and his Government, but that it has been productive of serious injury to the interests of Your Majesty's service, and of Your Majesty's loyal subjects in New Zealand.

We sincerely trust that Your Majesty will not deem us impatient, or unduly sensitive, in the particular matter at issue. The honour and good name of the Colony are our most precious possession, and there are special political circumstances affecting this Colony which make us the more jealous of the view taken by Your Majesty's Imperial Government of our treatment of the natives, and the more solicitous to vindicate our character in that respect. In 1840 Your Majesty entered into a treaty with the aborigines of New Zealand, on the faith of which Your Majesty assumed the sovereignty of the country, and in that treaty Your Majesty was graciously pleased to extend to them your Royal protection, and to impart to them all the rights and privileges of British subjects; and since that time Your Majesty has issued repeated injunctions honourably and scrupulously to fulfil the conditions of that treaty. In 1863 Your Majesty's Imperial Government relinquished absolutely to the Colonial Government the fulfilment of these sacred obligations. When that relinquishment was made, a civil war was raging between the two races, and a force of twenty thousand men, consisting of Your Majesty's Imperial and Colonial troops, was engaged in suppressing insurrection. At the present date, when complete tranquility has not been restored, and the relations of both races are extremely critical, the Imperial troops are withdrawn from the Colony. The Colony is now alone engaged in making efforts,—nowhere, we believe, previously paralleled, in proportion to the means at command,—to restore and maintain Your Majesty's authority, and to promote the welfare and civilization of all the Native inhabitants of these islands. We have no wish now to question the policy, or to comment on the course of events which led to it, of imposing on the unaided resources of the Colony the exclusive duty of discharging what are to a great extent Imperial responsibilities; but we respectfully venture to point out these facts as demonstrating that, in the absence of material aid, the sympathy and moral support of Your Majesty's Imperial Government are all the more necessary to the Colony in its endeavour to fulfil these objects, and that indifference and distrust will render that fulfilment, difficult as it always must be, an altogether hopeless task.

Under these circumstances, while in this instance we cordially recognize that the charges against the Colony have been, owing to the prompt action and firm attitude of the Governor, refuted fully to the satisfaction of Your Majesty's Imperial Government, we are apprehensive that the precedent created in this case by the Secretary of State,—namely, that of recognizing charges made in so irregular a manner against the Governor and the Government of this Colony—would, if persisted in, impair

NEW
ZEALAND.

the confidence which should subsist between the Imperial ministers and the Colonial authorities, would be prejudicial to the reputation and usefulness of public men, would tend to alienate the affections of the Colonists, and would be dangerous to the welfare and concord of the two races in New Zealand.

We therefore earnestly pray that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased to cause such steps to be taken as will obviate the future adoption of a course similar to that taken by Your Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies in this and in other instances, and that Your Majesty may be also pleased to extend to ourselves and to Your Majesty's other loyal subjects in this Colony Your Majesty's most gracious consideration, and that all our proceedings may receive from Your Majesty the most favourable construction.

We also humbly pray that Your Majesty may be pleased to cause the papers forwarded herewith, and others bearing on the same subject, to be presented to both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, in order that the fullest publicity in the United Kingdom, where the imputations have been secretly circulated, may be authentically given to all the circumstances connected with such imputations, and to their complete refutation.

And we, Your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects, will ever pray, &c.

Resolved,—

III. That Mr. Speaker be instructed to forward the address and resolutions now agreed to, together with a copy of the papers which have been laid before this House on the subject of Colonel Weare's allegations, to his Excellency the Governor, and to request his Excellency to be pleased to transmit the same to the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in order that they may be laid at the foot of the Throne.

A true extract,

F. E. CAMPBELL,
Clerk House of Representatives.

Correspondence between the Rev. Thomas William Weare
and the Colonial Office.

NEW
ZEALAND.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a LETTER from the Rev. T. W. WEARE to the Right Honourable
EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

United University Club, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East,
March 19, 1866.

SIR,

I do not presume on my having been not unknown to you, when a student of Christchurch, 30 years ago, but respectfully solicit the honour of a brief interview with you, to submit to your inspection letters from my brother, Colonel H. E. Weare, C.B., commanding the 50th regiment, which witness to atrocities now commencing with the movements of the army from Wanganui, which when publicly known will be sufficiently pronounced against as compromising the Christian character of our army and nation. The order that "No prisoner is to be taken" has ended in deliberate murders, of which I will furnish you with evidence.

I take this course, privately, of laying the facts before yourself, as Secretary of State for the Colonies, rather than applying to many friends in the House of Commons, or an appeal to the public papers.

I purpose to leave the letters at your disposal, to be regarded as either private or public.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. W. WEARE.
The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Enc. in No. 1,

EXTRACTS of Letter dated Patea, January 10, 1866, from to .
* * * * *

The General has ordered no prisoners to be taken, and already the most brutal things have been done, a man being disembowelled and then thrown alive on the fire; another his head cut off, and do.; this was allowed and encouraged in the camp, tho' actually done by the native allies. But many acts of cruelty have been done by our men, urged on by the officers, under pressure from the General. One case, Captain Vivian, 2/14th, whose men wounded a man and smashed his knee-cap, asked what they were to do with him, and he said leave him alone. This officer was abused in terms I am afraid to repeat, in presence of his men, by his colonel and brother officers. This officer none can beat for gallantry.

* * * * *
I will never allow a man of my regiment to butcher a man if it costs me my commission. I have seen young officers ready to cry, and my finest and most gallant officers are disgusted at being lowered into colonial butchers. The General told me the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners.

* * * * *
Another old man and woman were taken and feasted, then told to go, and when a few yards shot down, the woman escaping. The man, in the case of Captain Vivian, was immediately shot down with a dozen bullets.

28 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a LETTER from the Rev. T. W. WEARE to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

Hampton House, Hampton Bishop, Hereford,
August 20, 1866.

MY LORD,

* Page 27.

ON the 19th March last* I considered it to be my duty, on grounds of Christian humanity, to address the Colonial Secretary with respect to certain atrocities committed in New Zealand, and the adoption of a system of "no prisoners."

I did so on receiving certain private letters from my brother, Colonel H. E. Weare, C.B., 50th Queen's Own Regiment, without his suggestion, privity, or authority in any way.

I have by this day's mail received a letter from my brother entirely disapproving of the step I took in making use of his private letter.

I therefore beg to be allowed to withdraw the letter in question, as well as that of the date of April 16th last,* relating to another and subsequent matter, as having no authority from him whatever for having so communicated with the Colonial Office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. W. WEARE, M.A.,

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.

Clerk in Holy Orders, and J.P.
for the County of Hereford.

&c. &c. &c.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a LETTER from T. FREDERICK ELLIOT, Esq., to the Rev. T. W. WEARE.

SIR,

Downing Street, August 30, 1866.

* Above.

I AM directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant,* stating that your brother, Colonel Weare, disapproves of your having made use of his private letter to you, and requesting that you may be allowed to withdraw the letters to this office in which you reported certain alleged acts of barbarity in New Zealand.

I am desired to acquaint you, in answer, that it is impossible to comply with your request. Your letters were communicated to the military authorities, and have necessarily led to inquiries, and to steps on the part of the persons implicated in the accusations to clear their character.

I am, &c.

Rev. T. W. Weare.

(Signed) T. FREDERICK ELLIOT.

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a LETTER from the Rev. T. W. WEARE, M.A., to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

MY LORD,

Hampton House, Hampton Bishop, Hereford,
October 17, 1866.

THE communications addressed by me to the Colonial Office in March and April last being now rendered unnecessary, owing to the cessation of the war, I have the honour to request that the same may be considered as withdrawn.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS WILLIAM WEARE, M.A.,

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,

Clerk in Holy Orders, and one of Her
Majesty's Justices of the Peace
for the County of Hereford.

&c. &c. &c.

* No Letter of this date is on record in the Colonial Office.

No. 5.

NEW
ZEALAND.
No. 5.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir FREDERIC ROGERS, Bart., to the Rev. T. W. WEARE.

SIR,

Downing Street, October 25, 1866.

I AM directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant,* and to refer you, in answer, to Mr. Elliot's letter of the 30th of August,† informing you that it is impossible for his Lordship to comply with your request that your communications to this office may be considered as withdrawn.

* Page 28.

† Page 28.

I am, &c.

Rev. T. W. Weare.

(Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

Correspondence between the War and Colonial Offices.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a LETTER from the Earl of LONGFORD to Sir FREDERIC ROGERS, Bart.

(Confidential.)

SIR,

War Office, August 25, 1866.

WITH reference to your letter of the 20th March last, marked confidential,* relating to imputations upon the humanity of Major-General Chute in the prosecution of the recent war in New Zealand, I am directed by Secretary Lieut.-General Peel to transmit, for the information of the Earl of Carnarvon, the accompanying copy of a letter, with its enclosures, which has been received from Major-General Chute in explanation of the allegations made upon his conduct.

Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart.,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LONGFORD.

* Printed as
Enclosure in
No. 1. Page 1.

9th June.

Enc. in No. 1.

Enclosure in No. 1.

SIR,

Head Quarters, Auckland, June 9, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d March last, No. 090
949
confidential, relative to reports that had been made to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying imputations on the humanity of myself and certain officers and men in the conduct of the recent operations on the west coast,—calling on me for an immediate report on the subject of these statements, and informing me that Colonel Weare, C.B., 50th regiment, might be able to assist me in prosecuting any necessary inquiry into the origin of them.

In reply, I beg to state for the information of the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for War, that officers serving on the west coast of New Zealand could not have received a semi-official or any notification at all from officers of my staff to the effect that I did not wish any prisoners to be taken, for I never authorized my staff to issue any such instructions.

Having received the best information that the country in which I was about to operate was infested with the very worst characters in New Zealand, and as the operations themselves became necessary only in consequence of messengers of peace having been murdered under circumstances of the basest treachery, it is true that I myself, in conversation with some officers, gave it to be understood that, in a rebellion marked by such atrocities, it was necessary to inflict summary punishment on the rebels in the several assaults on their strongholds, and it was with this view that I made use of any expression about not wishing for prisoners, but I never either said or intended to convey that rebels were to be killed in cold blood, or that quarter should be refused to wounded or to prisoners if taken, and I cannot admit that anything I may have said of the above nature had any connection with two deeds of violence committed by the native contingent, whose revengeful feelings towards the enemy after an engagement it was most difficult to control.

The particular deeds to which I refer are as follows; first, a wounded rebel was shot by a man of the native contingent, who found him in a dying state after the attack on Putaki; of this I was informed by the officer commanding the native contingent, who was badly wounded on that occasion, when I visited him in camp subsequent to the action. This is the man stated in your letter to have been shot by men of the 14th regiment, and I am glad of the opportunity of relieving the corps from such an imputation.

The second case occurred on the following day, when a rebel spy was found concealed in the bush, brought into camp, and kept in the custody of the native contingent; he was released the same evening and taken some distance on the road leading to Putaki, but, as I was informed on the following morning, he had soon after his release been shot by a relative of his own in the native contingent. The perpetrator of this deed was driven out of camp the same night by the tribe to which he belonged, and was not again seen.

The other reports of barbarities perpetrated by the native allies with the knowledge of our troops, viz., "that two natives were thrown on a fire, one alive, after being disembowelled, the other after his head had been cut off," are wholly untrue.

On receipt of your letter I caused a communication to be addressed to Colonel Weare, of which the enclosed is a copy, and I also enclose a copy of Colonel Weare's reply for his Lordship's information.

Nothing, I am sure, could have been further from the intention of this officer, when writing in his private letters what he appears to have heard, than to give his authority for the veracity of the rumours he related, and I share in the regret which Colonel Weare has expressed at the use made of his private communications.

The Under Secretary of State for War,
War Office, London.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. CHUTE,
Major-General.

SIR, Head Quarters, Auckland, May 29, 1866.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Major-General commanding, to acquaint you that he has been informed by the Military Secretary to H.R.H. the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief, and the Under Secretary of State for War, that, on the authority of letters received from you, it had been intimated to the Colonial Office that officers serving on the west coast of New Zealand had received a semi-official notification from the Major-General's staff that he did not wish any prisoners to be taken, and that the Major-General himself had stated that the Colonial Government did not want the expense of prisoners.

Two particular cases are alleged in which Maories have been deliberately put to death in presumed compliance with this notification.

The one case was that of a wounded man shot by soldiers of the 14th after an officer had directed that he should be left alone; the other is that of an old man who was shot after having been taken and feasted with an old woman who escaped.

It is also stated that barbarities were perpetrated by the native allies with the knowledge of our troops, two natives, it is said, having been thrown on a fire, one alive, after being disembowelled, the other after his head had been cut off.

I am to request that you will furnish me, for the Major-General's information, with copies of the letters referred to together with a full explanation of the grounds on which you have made the statements in question.

Colonel Weare, C.B.,
50th Regiment, Auckland.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. DEANE, R.A.,
Lieut.-Colonel, A.M.S.

SIR, Auckland, June 6, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, relative to certain statements said to have been made in private letters of mine, the contents of which it would appear have been communicated to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I deeply regret that any such use should have been made of any private letters written to a near relative in the freedom of family correspondence. I am unable to comply with your request to furnish copies of those letters, as none were retained by me; and with regard to giving an explanation of the grounds on which I made the statements they are said to have contained, I beg to observe, that though I did mention the nature of certain camp rumours that were in circulation at the time, I believe (trusting to recollection) that in many respects the statements detailed in your letter as those which I am alleged to have made are expressed in much stronger terms than those actually contained in my letters; at all events I now believe that there were no grounds for the rumours that certain prisoners were disembowelled and then thrown on the fire alive, or that a Maori was shot by soldiers of the 14th regiment after an officer had tried to save his life, and I regret having in any way, even in a private letter, given the weight of my authority for such.

A native, I have since heard, was shot under some such circumstances, by some one, probably of the native contingent, who I heard likewise shot another native prisoner after releasing him. I do not believe I made such a statement in my private letter as that "officers serving on the west coast of New Zealand had received a semi-official notification from the Major-General's staff that he did not wish prisoners to be taken," nor that two Maories had been put to death in compliance with such, but I certainly myself understood that the Major-General did not wish prisoners.

Finally, I would again assure the Major-General of my regret at the use made of my private letters, which I in no way authorized, and I hope he will consider them as withdrawn.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. E. WEARE, Colonel,
Commanding 50th Regiment.

The Military Secretary, Auckland.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a LETTER from T. FREDERICK ELLIOT, Esq., to the Under Secretary of State for War.

SIR, Downing Street, September 13, 1866.

I AM directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo,* forwarding a copy of a letter, with its enclosure, from Major-General Chute in explanation of the imputations made upon his conduct by Colonel Weare.

* Page 30.

32 PAPERS RELATING TO CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING

NEW
ZEALAND.

Separate,
13th June 1866,
page 8.

Confidential,
26th Apr. 1866.
Page 1.

Mr. Weare,
20th Aug.
Page 31.

Colonial Office
in reply,
30th Aug.
Page 32.

I am desired to enclose, for the information of the Secretary of State for War, a copy of a Despatch which was received by the last mail from the Governor of New Zealand, denying that there was any ground for the assertion that the Colonial Government did not desire to be burdened with the expense of prisoners, and stating the results of inquiries which he had made on hearing, on two occasions, that natives had been put to death after they had been made prisoners, and the measures which he had taken for putting a stop to any further proceedings of this nature.

I am also to annex a copy of a Despatch which Mr. Cardwell addressed to Sir George Grey on the 26th of April, enclosing for his report a letter from the Rev. Mr. Weare concerning an extract of a later letter from his brother, Colonel Weare, in which he adverts to further atrocities committed by the troops in New Zealand on the rebel natives, under pressure from the colonial authorities.

It appears to Lord Carnarvon that it will be necessary to wait for Sir George Grey's answer to this communication before any decision can be arrived at in the matter.

Lieut.-General Peel will perceive from the enclosed correspondence that has recently passed with the Rev. Mr. Weare, that he is desirous of being allowed to withdraw his previous letters.

The Under Secretary of State
for War.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. FREDERICK ELLIOT.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a LETTER from Lieut.-General Sir EDWARD LUGARD, G.C.B., to
T. FREDERICK ELLIOT, Esq.

SIR,

War Office, March 8, 1867.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of certain charges brought against Major-General Chute and the officers and men under his command in New Zealand, by the Rev. T. Weare, on the authority of a private letter from his brother, Colonel Weare, 50th regiment, I am directed by Secretary Lieut.-General Peel to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief has received from Major-General Chute a full explanation of the circumstances alleged, and that General Peel quite concurs with His Royal Highness in considering that explanation as perfectly satisfactory.

T. Frederick Elliot, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

LONDON :

Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

NOVA SCOTIA.

COPIES OF DESPATCHES

FROM

VISCOUNT MONCK,

FORWARDING

REPRESENTATIONS FROM NOVA SCOTIA
AGAINST THE UNION,
AND THE ANSWER.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
10 June 1868.



LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

[Price 1½d.]

LIST OF PAPERS.

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page.
1	Viscount Monck	28	Feb. 27, 1868	Transmitting a Despatch from General Doyle, with a copy of the Resolutions against Union - - - -	3
2	" "	41	Mar. 14, 1868	Transmitting Resolutions appointing a Delegation to England - - - -	4
3	" "	42	" "	Transmitting Address to the Queen from the Assembly of Nova Scotia against Union - - - -	5
4	Duke of Buckingham	107	June 4, 1868	Reply of Her Majesty's Government -	8

NOVA SCOTIA.

No. 1.

Viscount MONCK to the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 28.) Government House, Ottawa, February 27, 1868.

MY LORD DUKE,

(Received March 12, 1868.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Grace's information, a copy of a Despatch from the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, dated 13th February, covering a copy of a series of Resolutions* adopted by the Legislative Assembly of that Province, advocating the repeal, so far as it concerns Nova Scotia, of the "British North American Act, 1867;" and a copy of another Despatch of the same date, covering a copy of an approved Order of the Executive Council of Nova Scotia, authorizing the mission of the Honourable Joseph Howe to convey to Her Majesty's Government the Address of the Assembly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MONCK.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Enc. 1 in No. 1.

Lieutenant-Governor DOYLE to the SECRETARY OF STATE for the Provinces.

SIR,

Halifax, Nova Scotia, February 13, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General, a copy of some Resolutions advocating a repeal of the provisions of "The British North American Act, 1867," (as far as it concerns the Province of Nova Scotia,) which have been introduced into the House of Assembly by the Attorney-General, and which have been to-day adopted by the House.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HASTINGS DOYLE.

The Hon. the Secretary of State for the Provinces,

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

Enc. 2 in No. 1.

Lieutenant-Governor DOYLE to the SECRETARY OF STATE for the Provinces.

SIR,

Halifax, Nova Scotia, February 13, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General, a copy of a Minute of Council this day submitted to me, and of which I approved.

I have not been furnished with a copy of the petition therein referred to, nor has it ever been published.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HASTINGS DOYLE.

The Hon. the Secretary of State for the Provinces,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

Enc. 3 in No. 1.

MINUTE OF COUNCIL.

THE Provincial Secretary having laid before the Council petitions to both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, signed by sixteen members of the House of Commons of Canada and by thirty-six members of the House of Assembly of this Province, praying that Nova Scotia may be relieved from the operation of the "Act for the Union of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick:"

It is ordered, that the Honourable Joseph Howe be requested to proceed to England, by the next mail steamer, to make arrangements for the presentation of the said petition, and that he be instructed to co-operate with such gentlemen as may be hereafter charged to convey to Her Majesty's Government copies of the Resolutions and Address upon the same subject now under the consideration of the Provincial Parliament.

* The Resolutions, as ultimately passed, will be found at page 5.

NOVA
SCOTIA.

The Delegates to be empowered to press the prayer of the said Petition and Address in such manner as in their judgment may best comport with the interests and feelings of the people of Nova Scotia.

Ordered, That the Honourable the Treasurer be authorized to make provision for the expenses of this service, and to report to the Council.

No. 2.

No. 2.

Viscount MONCK to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 41.)
MY LORD DUKE,

Ottawa, March 14, 1868.

(Received April 1, 1868.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Grace's information, copies of a Despatch which I have received from the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, with certain Resolutions adopted by the Legislative Assembly of that Province on the subject of the "British North American Act" of 1867.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MONCK.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enc. 1 in No. 2.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

Lieutenant-Governor DOYLE to the SECRETARY OF STATE for the Provinces.

SIR,

Halifax, Nova Scotia, February 27, 1868.

I THINK it my duty to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General, that, for the purpose of giving effect to the Resolutions of the House of Assembly, of which a copy is enclosed,* a delegation leaves this city for England to-morrow, composed of the following gentlemen: Hon. William Annand, M.L.C., Member of the Executive Council; Hon. J. C. Troop, M.P.P., ditto; Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P.P.

With these gentlemen the Hon. Joseph Howe, who sailed for England a fortnight ago, will be associated on their arrival in London.

The Hon. the Secretary of State for the Provinces,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HASTINGS DOYLE.

Enc. 2 in No. 2.

Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

RESOLUTIONS.

In the House of Assembly, February 25, 1868.

Resolved—That the delegates so to be appointed are to urge upon the attention of the British Government and the Imperial Parliament the strong feelings of this House and the people of Nova Scotia upon the question of Confederation; that they are to ask for the restoration of the constitution of this country as it existed previous to the passage of the "British North America Act;" that they are not to accept any alteration of or amendment to such Act, and that they are hereby authorized, if necessary, to retain counsel learned in the law to plead the claims of Nova Scotia at the bar of the House of Commons, and to take all such necessary steps for carrying out the Resolutions of this House as may be deemed advisable.

(Signed) H. D. TWINING,
Clerk of House of Assembly.

In the House of Assembly, February 25, 1868.

Resolved—That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor in Council be authorized to appoint delegates charged with the Resolutions passed by this House on the 21st February instant in respect to the constitutional rights and privileges of the people of this Province.

(Signed) H. D. TWINING,
Clerk of House of Assembly.

* The Resolutions, as ultimately passed, will be found on page 5.

No. 3.

Viscount MONCK to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 42.)

Government House, Ottawa, Canada,

March 14, 1868.

(Received April 1, 1868.)

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a Despatch from the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, forwarding to me an Address to Her Majesty the Queen from the Legislative Assembly of that Province, and I have to request that your Grace will take the necessary measures for having this Address laid at the foot of the Throne.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) MONCK.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Enc. in No.

Lieutenant-Governor DOYLE to the Secretary of State for the Provinces.

SIR,

Halifax, Nova Scotia, February 26, 1868.

THE House of Assembly of this Province have voted the accompanying Address to the Queen,* which I have the honour to desire that you will bring to the notice of his Excellency the Governor-General, and request his Excellency to transmit to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with a view to its being laid at the foot of the Throne.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Secretary of State for the Provinces,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) HASTINGS DOYLE.

Resolutions passed unanimously by the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia, on the
21st day of February 1868.

1. *Resolved*—That the members of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, elected in 1863 simply to legislate under the Colonial Constitution, had no authority to make or consent to any material change of such Constitution without first submitting the same to the people at the polls.

2. *Resolved*—That the Resolution of the 10th April, which led to the passage of the British North America Act, and is as follows (that is to say):—

“Whereas, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that a Confederation of the British North American Provinces should take place:

Resolved, therefore—That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor be authorized to appoint Delegates to arrange with the Imperial Government a scheme of union which will effectually insure just provision for the rights and interests of this Province, each Province to have an equal voice in such delegation, Upper and Lower Canada being for this purpose considered as separate Provinces,” was the only authority possessed by the Delegates who procured the enactment of the “Act for the Union of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.”

3. *Resolved*—That even if the House of Assembly had the constitutional power to authorize such delegation, which is by no means admitted, the foregoing Resolution did not empower the Delegates to arrange a federal union of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, without including in such Confederation the Colonies of Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island.

4. *Resolved*—That no Delegates from the two last-named Colonies having attended, and an unequal number from each of the others being present, the delegation was not legally constituted, and had no authority to act under the said Resolution, which expressly required each of the Colonies to be represented by an equal number of Delegates.

5. *Resolved*—That the Delegates did not “ensure just provision for the rights and interests of this Province,” as they were, by the express terms of such resolution, bound to do in arranging a scheme of Union; but, on the contrary, they entirely disregarded those rights and interests, and the scheme by them consented to would, if finally confirmed, deprive the people of this Province of their rights, liberty, and independence—rob them of their revenues—take from the regulations of their trade, commerce, and taxes the management of their railroads and other public property, expose them to an arbitrary and excessive taxation by a Legislature over which they can have no adequate control, and reduce this hitherto free, happy, and self-governed Province to the degraded condition of a dependency of Canada.

6. *Resolved*—That no fundamental or material change of the constitution of the Province can be made in any other constitutional manner than by a statute of the Provincial Legislature, sanctioned by the people after the subject matter of the same had been referred to them at the polls, the Legislature of a Colonial Dependency having no power or authority implied from their relation to the people, as their legislative representatives, to overthrow the constitution under which they were elected.

7. *Resolved*—That the scheme of confederating Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia was never submitted to the people of this Province at the polls before the 18th day of September last, upwards of

* The Address to the Queen will be found at page 6.

two-and-a-half months after the British North America Act was, by the Queen's Proclamation, declared to be in force, when the people were thereby informed that they had been subjected, without their consent, to the absolute dominion of more populous and more powerful Colonies, and had lost their liberty.

8. *Resolved*—That there being no statute of the Provincial Legislature confirming or ratifying the British North America Act, and the same never having been consented to or authorized by the people at the polls, nor the consent of this Province in any other manner testified, the preamble of the Act reciting that this Province had expressed a desire to be confederated with Canada and New Brunswick is untrue; and when the Queen and the Imperial Legislature were led to believe that this Province had expressed such a desire, a fraud and imposition were practised upon them.

9. *Resolved*—That the truth of the preamble of the British North America Act, reciting the desire of the Nova Scotia to be confederated is essential to the constitutionality of the Statute; and if the same is false the statute is defective, because a statute cannot be rendered constitutional by falsely assuming as true the condition which is indispensable to its constitutionality.

10. *Resolved*—That from the time the scheme of Confederation was first devised in Canada until it was consummated by the Imperial Act in London, it was systematically kept from the consideration of the people of Nova Scotia at the polls; and the Executive Council and the Legislature, in defiance of petitions signed by many thousands of the electors of this Province, persistently and perseveringly prevented the same from being presented to the people.

11. *Resolved*—That at the recent election the question of Confederation exclusively occupied the attention of the people, who were then, for the first time, enabled to express their will on a subject of the most vital importance to their happiness; and the result has proved that this Province does not desire to be annexed to Canada, and that the people of Nova Scotia repudiate the enforced provisions of the British North America Act, which, for the reasons set forth in the foregoing Resolutions, they believe to be unconstitutional, and in no manner binding upon the people of Nova Scotia.

12. *Resolved*—That the Quebec Scheme, which is embodied in the British North America Act, imprudently attempted to be forced upon the people of Nova Scotia, not only without their consent, but against their will, has already created wide-spread irritation and discontent; and unless the same be withdrawn, will, we fear, be attended with the most disastrous consequences, as the loyal people of this Province are fully conscious of their rights as British subjects, set an inestimable value upon their free institutions, and will not willingly consent to the invasion of those rights, or to be subjected to the dominion of any other power than their lawful and beloved Queen.

13. *Resolved*—That the Colonies were politically allied to each other by their common relationship to the Queen and her Empire, in a more peaceable and less dangerous connexion than under any scheme of Colonial Confederation that could be devised, even on the fairest, wisest, and most judicious principles.

14. *Resolved*—That the people of Nova Scotia do not impute to Her Majesty the Queen and the Imperial Parliament any intentional injustice, as they are well aware that fraud and deception were practised upon them, by those who misrepresented the public sentiment of this country, and who, for reasons that we will not venture to assign, desired that Confederation might be forced upon this Province, without the consent and against the will of the people.

15. *Resolved*—That an humble Address be presented to the Queen embodying the substance of the foregoing Resolutions, informing Her Majesty that her loyal people of Nova Scotia do not desire to be in any manner confederated with Canada, and praying Her Majesty to revoke her Proclamation, and to cause the British North America Act to be repealed, as far as it affects the Province of Nova Scotia.

The foregoing are a true copy of the fifteen Resolutions passed unanimously by the House of Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia on the 21st day of February, A.D. 1868, which I certify.

(Signed) HENRY TWING,

Clerk of the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, February 25th, 1868.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the House of Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia.

May it please your Majesty,

We, your Majesty's dutiful subjects, the representatives of the people of Nova Scotia in Provincial Parliament assembled, most respectfully approach your Majesty with assurances of our unabated loyalty and devoted attachment to your Majesty's person and Government.

We call the attention of your Majesty to the fact that His Majesty King George the Second, upwards of a century ago, granted to the people of Nova Scotia a Representative Constitution, and ordained that the Legislature should consist of a Governor, Council, and Assembly, constituted of the freeholders of the Province, and this Constitution was improved subsequently by the liberality of succeeding Sovereigns, in graciously conceding extensive powers of self-government to your Majesty's loyal subjects of Nova Scotia.

We would humbly submit to your Majesty that a Constitution thus solemnly granted, and guaranteed to the people of this Colony, could not be revoked without the consent of your Majesty and of the people of Nova Scotia, who had an undoubted right to be consulted before their Constitution could be materially altered.

We also humbly submit that a Legislature so constituted for the single purpose of making laws, statutes, and ordinances, for the peace, order, and government of the Colony, possessed no power nor authority in any manner to alter—much less to overthrow—the Constitution without the consent of

your Majesty, and of the people of Nova Scotia, who had a right to be consulted before such alteration could take place.

That delegates were appointed, under a resolution of the House of Assembly and Legislative Council, which bears date on the 10th day of April 1866, and is as follow, that is to say:—

“Whereas, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that a Confederation of the British North American Provinces should take place: Resolved therefore—That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor be authorized to appoint Delegates to arrange with the Imperial Government a scheme of union which will effectually insure just provision for the rights and interests of this Province; each Province to have an equal voice in such Delegation—Upper and Lower Canada being for this purpose considered as separate Provinces.”

To this Resolution we beg to call your Majesty's special attention, as it constituted the only power the Delegates had to alter or interfere with the Constitution of the Province.

Your Majesty will observe that this Resolution, even if the Legislature had any power to pass it, did not clothe the Delegates with power to arrange a Federal Union of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, without including Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island.

That no Delegates from the two last-named Colonies having attended, and an unequal number being in attendance from each of the others, the delegation was not legally constituted, and had no authority to act under the Resolution.

That the Delegates, so far from insuring just provision for the rights and interests of this Province, which, by the express words of the Resolution they were bound to do, entirely disregarded and sacrificed those rights and interests, and the scheme by them assented to would, if adopted, deprive the people of the inestimable privilege of self-government, and of their rights, liberty, and independence, rob them of their revenues, take from them the regulation of their trade and taxation, expose them to arbitrary taxation by a Legislature over which they would have no control, and in which they would possess but a nominal and entirely ineffective representation, deprive them of their invaluable fisheries, their railroads and other property, and reduce this free, happy, and hitherto self-governed province to the degraded condition of a servile dependency of Canada.

We beg most respectfully to call your Majesty's attention to the following facts:

That the scheme of confederating Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia was never submitted to the people of this Province at the polls before the 18th day September last, upwards of two months and a half after the British North American Act was, by your Majesty's Proclamation, declared to be in force, and your Majesty's faithful subjects of Nova Scotia were thereby informed that they had been subjected, without their consent, to the absolute dominion of more populous and more powerful Colonies, and had lost their liberty.

That their being no statute of the Provincial Legislature confirming or ratifying the British North American Act, and it never having been consented to nor authorized by the people, nor the consent of this Province in any other manner testified, the preamble of the Act, reciting that this Province had expressed a desire to be confederated with Canada and New Brunswick, is untrue, and when your Majesty was led to believe that this Province had expressed such a desire, a fraud and imposition were practised upon your Majesty.

That from the time that the scheme of Confederation was first devised in Canada, until it was consummated by the said Act in London, it was systematically kept from the consideration of the people of Nova Scotia at the polls, and the Executive Council and Legislature, in defiance of petitions signed by many thousands of the electors of the Province, persistently and perseveringly prevented the same from being submitted to the people.

That at the recent election the question of Confederation exclusively occupied the attention of the people, who were then for the first time enabled to express their will on a subject of the most vital importance to their happiness, and the result has proved that this Province does not desire to be annexed to Canada, and that the people repudiate the enforced provisions of the British North American Act, which for the reasons set forth in this our humble Address, we believe to be unconstitutional, and in no manner binding on them.

That the Imperial statute passed not only without the consent of the people of Nova Scotia, but against their will, has already, we regret to inform your Majesty, created wide-spread irritation and discontent, and unless the same be repealed, will, we fear, be attended with the most disastrous consequences, as the truly loyal people of this Province are fully conscious of their rights as British, set an inestimable value on their free institutions, and will not consent to the invasion of those rights, or to be subjected to the dominion of any other power than your Majesty, their gracious Sovereign and dearly beloved Queen.

We would humbly submit to your Majesty that the British American Colonies were politically allied to each other by their common relations to your Majesty and your empire, in a more peaceable and less dangerous connection than under any scheme of Colonial Confederation that could be devised, even on the fairest, wisest, and most judicious principles.

We by no means impute to your Majesty or the Imperial Legislature any intentional injustice, as we are well aware that fraud and deception were practised upon your Majesty by those who misrepresented the public sentiment of this Province, and who desired and contrived that Confederation should be forced upon Nova Scotia, without the consent and against the will of the people.

We therefore, as in duty bound, inform your Majesty that the people of this Province not only do not desire, but will never willingly consent, to be in any manner confederated with Canada; and relying most implicitly on your Majesty's exemplary regard for constitutional liberty, well-known love of justice, and the respect which your Majesty has ever manifested for the constitutional rights of your people, we, on behalf of the loyal people of Nova Scotia, most humbly beseech your Majesty to revoke your Royal Proclamation of the 22d day of May last, and to cause the British North American Act to be repealed, as far as it affects the rights and liberty of this ever loyal Province.

(Signed) JOHN J. MARSHALL, Speaker.

Assembly Room, February 22, 1868.

(No. 107.)

Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to Viscount MONCK.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, 4th June 1868.

* Page 5.

I DULY received the Address to the Queen from the House of Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, contained in your lordship's despatch, No. 42,* of the 14th of March, representing that they object to the measure of confederation by which the Province has been joined with Canada and New Brunswick, and praying that, so far regards Nova Scotia, the Act of the Imperial Parliament effecting the union may be repealed.

I have also had an interview with Mr. Joseph Howe, Mr. William Annand, Mr. Troop, and Mr. Smith, being the deputation who were appointed by the Executive Council of Nova Scotia to visit this country in order to explain and support the representations offered against confederation.

I have the honour to inform you that I have laid the Address of the House of Assembly before the Queen, and that Her Majesty received with much satisfaction the assurances which it contains of their unabated loyalty and attachment to Her person and government. The Queen regrets to learn that any dissatisfaction should have been caused amongst her faithful subjects in Nova Scotia by the measure of Confederation adopted by the Imperial Parliament, and assented to by the Crown, but Her Majesty trusts that the objections which have been expressed may admit of removal.

I can assure your lordship that the subject of the Address has engaged the earnest consideration of Her Majesty's Confidential Advisers. They are well aware that the inhabitants of Nova Scotia have always been distinguished by a sentiment, honourable alike to the Colony and to this country, of attachment to the British Crown and Government, and they are anxious to promote the contentment of a people so justly entitled to consideration. But the magnitude of the interests at stake renders it a duty not to shrink from examining fully the grounds of the complaints which have been adduced; and if it should prove that some of them are mistaken and others removable, I should indulge the hope that a different view of the subject will be ultimately taken.

The leading complaints appear to be reducible to two:—First, that confederation was accomplished without properly consulting the Province; and secondly, that the results may be prejudicial to some of its special interests.

Now as far as regards the second of these topics, Her Majesty's Government feel that they need only draw the attention of yourself and of your Government to the points raised in the Address relative to taxation, the regulation of trade and the fisheries, as they are confident that it will be equally the wish of your Government and of the Parliament of the Dominion to relax or modify any arrangements on those subjects which may prejudice the peculiar interests of Nova Scotia, and of the maritime portion of the Dominion. No doubt can be entertained that the Parliament of the Dominion will be fully alive to both the justice and the expediency of consulting all the various interests of the territory over which its jurisdiction extends.

With respect to the evidences of the opinion of the Province, I observe that Nova Scotia was on several occasions the first of the Provinces to move the project of confederation. In 1854 it was proposed in the Legislature of Nova Scotia. In 1857 it formed one of the topics entrusted to some delegates from the Government of Nova Scotia to Her Majesty's Government. The plan was moved in Canada in 1858, but being subsequently dropped, was revived in Nova Scotia in 1861; and made the subject, in 1862, of a Circular Address from Nova Scotia to all the other Provinces.

In 1864 delegates were appointed by the Government of Nova Scotia to attend the conference at Quebec that framed the scheme on which the Act of Confederation now in force is based. As soon as that scheme was unanimously adopted by the delegates from the several Provinces, the Secretary of State remarked that the project should be submitted to the several Legislatures. Prince Edward Island declined both in 1865 and 1866, and Newfoundland never adopted the proposal. But in 1866 both Houses of the Legislature in Nova Scotia, and both Houses of the Legislature in New Brunswick, passed resolutions (of which copies are annexed to this Despatch) requesting the Governor to name delegates to arrange with the Imperial Government a scheme of union, whilst Canada had previously passed similar resolutions, of which also copies are annexed. Such were the proceedings which attested to the Government of this country, on the highest authority, the wish of the Legislatures in those Provinces.

I am advised that the Act of Confederation was duly and lawfully passed by the Imperial Parliament.

It is objected that no previous appeal was made to the people in the Provinces; but this has not been thought necessary in parallel cases. There was none, for instance, in uniting the two Canadas in 1839, although much difference of opinion existed, and in

Upper Canada much close conflict in the debates. An appeal to the country was proposed in the Assembly of Upper Canada at that time, and rejected by a large majority. The same proposal was made in the late debates on confederation in Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, but in all of them was thrown out by a large majority.

Again, it has been objected that the union was not made subject to legislative ratification by the several Legislatures. But no such course has been followed in the numerous modifications of Colonial constitutions, and in the separations and unions of colonies, which have been effected by Imperial legislation.

It does so happen, however, that after the present measure had been introduced into the Imperial Parliament, and its terms made public, it was cordially approved of by both Houses of the Legislature in Nova Scotia in their Addresses to the Governor at the opening of the session in 1867. And the same took place in New Brunswick, where the session opened after the Imperial measure had become law. Copies of the passages to which I refer are annexed.

The Provincial Governments and Legislatures in the present case, after the terms had been substantially settled, with the knowledge and approval of all, looked to the Imperial Parliament to accomplish their union. This has been done exactly in the manner requested; the neighbouring Province of New Brunswick has entered into the union, in reliance on having with it the sister Province of Nova Scotia, and vast obligations, political and commercial, have been already contracted on the faith of a measure so long discussed and so solemnly adopted.

I should do injustice to the character which Nova Scotia has always conspicuously borne of a faithful member of the general British community, if I did not add as a consideration sure to have weight with it, that the measure is believed by Her Majesty's Government to be not merely conducive to the strength and welfare of the Provinces, but also important to the interests of the whole Empire.

I have already said, that any practical regard which may be due to the special position and interests of the Province will, Her Majesty's Government are confident, be cheerfully given by the Parliament of the Dominion; but after the foregoing explanations, I trust that the Assembly and the people of Nova Scotia will not be surprised that the Queen's Government feel that they would not be warranted in advising the reversal of a great measure of State, attended by so many extensive consequences already in operation, and adopted with the previous sanction of every one of the Legislatures concerned, and with the subsequent approval of the Legislatures of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

The Right Hon. Viscount Monck,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Enc. in No. 4.

COPIES OF ADDRESSES AND RESOLUTIONS prior to the introduction of the Imperial Act for the UNION of the PROVINCES.

CANADA.

Address of the Legislative Council to the Queen, adopted 20th February 1865, and the same Address adopted by the Assembly on the 13th of March 1865.

Parliamentary
Paper, Fe-
bruary 8, 1867,
page 10.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty, for the purpose of praying that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be submitted to the Imperial Parliament for the purpose of uniting the Colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island in one Government, with provisions based on the following Resolutions, which were adopted at a Conference of Delegates from the said Colonies held at the City of Quebec, on the 10th of October 1864.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Address of the Legislative Council to the Queen.

Ibid., page 105.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of New Brunswick, in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty with the conviction that a union of all Your Majesty's British North American Colonies, based on the Resolutions adopted at the Conference of Delegates from these several Colonies, held at Quebec on the 10th day of October 1864, is an object highly to be desired, essential to their future prosperity and influence, and calculated alike to strengthen and perpetuate the ties which bind them to Your Gracious Majesty's Throne and Government, and humbly pray that Your Majesty may be pleased to cause a measure to be submitted to

NOVA
SCOTIA.

the Imperial Parliament for the purpose of thus uniting the Colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island in one Government.

(Signed) JOHN SAUNDERS,
Acting President of the Legislative Council.

Resolution of the Assembly 30th June 1866.

Parliamentary
Paper, Fe-
bruary 8, 1867,
page 112.

Resolved—That an humble Address be presented to his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that his Excellency will be pleased to appoint Delegates to unite with Delegates from the other Provinces in arranging with the Imperial Government for the Union of British North America, upon such terms as will secure the just rights and interests of New Brunswick, accompanied with provision for the immediate construction of the intercolonial railway; each Province to have an equal voice in such delegation; Upper and Lower Canada to be considered as separate Provinces.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Resolution adopted by the Legislative Council and the Assembly in April 1866.

Ibid., page 61.

Whereas in the opinion of this House it is desirable that a Confederation of the British North American Provinces should take place.

Resolved, therefore,—That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor be authorized to appoint Delegates to arrange with the Imperial Government a scheme of union which will effectually insure just provision for the rights and interests of this Province; each Province to have an equal voice in such delegation; Upper and Lower Canada being, for this purpose, considered as separate Provinces.

Journals of the
respective
Houses in each
Province.

EXTRACT OF ADDRESSES SUBSEQUENT TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPERIAL MEASURE.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Extract of Address of Legislative Council to the Governor on opening of the Session, dated 16th March 1867.

The success which has attended the Delegates sent by your Excellency to confer with Her Majesty's Government on the union of the North American Provinces is gratifying to the Legislative Council, and we concur with your Excellency in the belief that the union of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, upon the terms contained in the Bill submitted by Her Majesty's Government to the Imperial Parliament will tend to increase their prosperity, and contribute to the strength and stability of those British institutions which we prize so highly.

Extract of Address of Assembly to the Governor, dated 16th March 1867.

We have learned with deep satisfaction that the efforts to affect a satisfactory union of the British North American Colonies have been so successful, and we entertain no doubt that the best interests of all these Provinces will be greatly enhanced, and their connection with the Crown and the parent state permanently secured thereby.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Extract of Address of Legislative Council, dated May 11th, 1867.

We rejoice to hear of the success which has attended the labours of the Delegates appointed to proceed to England to unite with Delegates from Canada and Nova Scotia, in arranging with the Imperial Government for the Union of British North America, and we thank your Excellency for directing the papers connected with the subject to be laid before us.

We are well assured that the people of this Province will cordially unite in giving effect to the provisions of the Act of Union, and we are confident that it will be productive of lasting benefit to New Brunswick.

Extract of Address of Assembly, dated 11th May 1867.

We are pleased to learn that the Delegates appointed to proceed to England to unite with the Delegates from Canada and Nova Scotia in arranging with the Imperial Government for the union of British North America have successfully accomplished that object; and we thank your Excellency for the assurance that the papers relating thereto will be laid before us.

We feel confident that Her Majesty's loyal subjects in New Brunswick will cheerfully unite in giving effect to the provisions of the Act for the union of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, and that, under Providence, it will be productive of lasting benefit to this Province.

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty,
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office,

SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS (QUEENSLAND).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 28 April 1868;—for,

“COPY or EXTRACTS of all CORRESPONDENCE relating to the Importation
of SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS into *Queensland*.”

Colonial Office, }
6 July 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

(*Mr. Taylor.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
6 July 1868.

LIST OF PAPERS.

QUEENSLAND.		
No.	DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR:	PAGE.
1	No. 49, 16 September 1863, Extract - - - - -	1
2	„ 63, 16 November 1866 - - - - -	4
3	„ 36, 13 July 1867 - - - - -	11
4	„ 12, 27 January 1868 - - - - -	13
5	„ 25, 23 March 1868 - - - - -	22
DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE:		
1	No. 5, 1 February 1867 - - - - -	24
2	„ 40, 9 November 1867 - - - - -	24
3	„ 1, 8 January 1868 - - - - -	25
NEW SOUTH WALES.		
DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR:		
1	No. 22, 12 March 1867 - - - - -	26
2	„ 26, 29 February 1868 - - - - -	27
DESPATCH FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE:		
1	No. 59, 3 December 1867 - - - - -	31
CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN COLONIAL OFFICE AND ADMIRALTY:		
1	Lord Henry Lennox to the Under Secretary of State - - 26 November 1867	32
2	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to Secretary to Admiralty - - 6 December „	32
3	Ditto - - - ditto - - - 15 November „	32
4	W. G. Romaine, C.B., to Under Secretary of State for Colonies 7 December „	33
5	Ditto - - - ditto - - - 21 March - 1868	37
6	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to the Secretary to the Admiralty - 24 April - „	37
7	Ditto - - - ditto - - - 27 „ - „	37
8	W. G. Romaine, C. B., to Under Secretary for the Colonies - 28 „ - „	38
9	T. F. Elliot, Esq., to Secretary to the Admiralty - - 29 May - „	38
CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE:		
1	Right Hon E. Hammond to Under Secretary of State for the Colonies. 24 February 1868	38
2	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to Under Secretary of State, Foreign Office 17 March „	39

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE EMIGRATION OFFICE:					PAGE.
No.					
1	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to Emigration Commissioners	- -	5 October	1867	40
2	T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq., to Sir F. Rogers, Bart.	- -	24 "	"	40
3	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to Emigration Commissioners	- -	13 December	"	41
4	T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq., to Sir F. Rogers, Bart.	- -	23 "	"	42
5	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to the Emigration Commissioners	- -	28 April	- 1868	43
6	T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq., to Sir F. Rogers, Bart.	- -	6 May	- "	44
7	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to Emigration Commissioners	- -	13 June	- "	46
8	Ditto - - - ditto - - -	- - -	13 "	- "	47
9	T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq., to Sir F. Rogers, Bart.	- -	16 "	- "	47

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY:					
1	A. W. Bennett, Esq., to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.		13 March	- 1868	50
2	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to A. W. Bennett, Esq.	- - -	23 "	- "	52
3	L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq., to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.		27 "	- "	52
4	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.	- - -	27 April	- "	53
5	L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq., to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.		29 "	- "	53
6	T. Frederick Elliot, Esq., to L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.	- - -	27 May	- "	55
7	L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq., to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.		23 "	- "	56
8	T. Frederick Elliot, Esq., to L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.	- - -	3 June	- "	59
9	L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq., to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.		6 "	- "	59
10	Right Hon. C. B. Adderley to L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.	- - -	19 "	- "	69

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND THE ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY:					
1	Lord A. Churchill to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.		25 March	- 1868	70
2	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to Lord A. Churchill	- - -	27 April	- "	71

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:					
1	Right Hon. Sir John Trollope, Bart., to the Secretary of State		14 April	- 1868	71
2	T. Frederick Elliot, Esq., to Mr. E. Percy	- - -	29 May	- "	72

APPENDIX:

Queensland Act, No. 47, of 1868 —To regulate and control the Introduction and Treatment of Polynesian Labourers.	73
--	----

COPY or EXTRACTS of all CORRESPONDENCE relating to the Importation of
SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS into *Queensland*.

QUEENSLAND.

Queensland.

Despatches from the Governor.

— No. 1. —

(No. 49.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *G. F. Bowen*, G.C.M.G., to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.; dated Government House, Brisbane, Queensland, 16 September 1863.

No. 1.
Governor Sir *G. F. Bowen*, G.C.M.G.,
to the Duke of
Newcastle, K.G.
16 Sept. 1863.

A COTTON plantation has been commenced near Brisbane by Captain Towns, a highly respectable and influential merchant and shipowner of Sydney, lately appointed by the Crown to be a member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales. About a month ago this gentleman imported, in one of his own ships, 60 South Sea Islanders from the Polynesian group, to work on his plantation. The only law regulating this kind of immigration which is in force here applies to Indians alone; but my Government agreed with me that it would be desirable to make some inquiries from Captain Towns, who immediately furnished full information respecting his dealings with these immigrants. I enclose printed copies of his engagements, and of his instructions to his agents. The greatest possible publicity was given to these documents, by laying them before the Colonial Parliament, by which they appear to have been considered satisfactory. I enclose further a copy of a circular addressed by Captain Towns to the missionaries in the South Sea Islands.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

1863.

QUEENSLAND.—LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS (IMPORTATION OF).

(Ordered to be printed by the Legislative Assembly, 26th August 1863.)

Sydney, 30 May 1863.

MEMORANDUM of AGREEMENT for engaging Natives for my Cotton Plantation in Queensland, for Six or Twelve Months,

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

Witnesseth: I, Robert Towns, hereby engage and undertake to pay as wages to any able adult native that may be hired for my service, at and after the rate of 10s. (ten shillings) per month in such trade as he may prefer at the end of his agreement, and to return him to his home within 12 months, should he require such.

2. I also agree to find the natives huts or houses, or tents, until huts can be put up, and to supply them with good and sufficient food, such as they are accustomed to, and to
o.90. A provide

Queensland.

provide them with cooking utensils, and in every way watch over and protect them, during the period of their servitude.

3. The labour these natives will be required to perform will be chiefly field labour, of a light and easy description, such as cleaning and picking cotton when in season, and any other work they may be called on to perform.

Witness my hand this 30th day of May 1863.

(signed) *R. Towns.*

Sir,

Sydney, 29 May 1863.

REFERRING to our verbal agreement for your present employment on the intended expedition of the "Don Juan," after a number of natives to be employed on my cotton fields in Queensland.

I now give you my written instructions for your guidance, and as I understand you are no scholar, Captain Grueber will read them for you, and explain what is required of you.

First, you will proceed to, and call at, such islands as you are known to the natives, and then explain to them what your object is, namely, to engage for me from 50 to 100 natives, all male, on the present voyage, until they are better known in the district and Colony.

I will prefer young lads, from 14 and 15 to 18, in preference to older men, as the bulk; you must have some old hands amongst the lot to induce the young ones to enlist.

In engaging or persuading these people, you must tell them exactly what they will have to do, that is, their chief work will be in the cotton fields, and that they will have good huts to live in, a kind master to protect, and that you will take them back within twelve months, perhaps in six, and that you will be on the station to explain and interpret for them, and that they will be paid in goods at the rate of 10s. per month (over and above their rations) for the able men, and the others according to their worth and value.

I presume you will call at Leifoo or Ware first, and then to Sandwich; I leave this for you and Captain Grueber to arrange; and while I am on this, I must here remind you, that while you are on board the ship you are to act, and do the duty in every way, as second mate, for which service you have signed the articles of the vessel, and in which capacity you will be paid at and after the rate of 5*l.* (five pounds) per month, which pay will be continued you on the station so long as you remain, or other arrangements are made.

In conclusion, I must remind you of my earnest desire that the natives are treated with the greatest kindness, and on no account allow them to be ill-used by the crew or any person on board; if such is offered to them, it is your duty to report the same to the captain. I will be satisfied with 50 young men and boys if you can get them, but will be better pleased with 70, if the vessel can bring so many comfortably; but on no account crowd them, or delay the vessel for the purpose.

You must endeavour all you can to keep the natives in good humour and friendly, and on good terms with each other; on no account allow them to quarrel or have any of their national disputes on board; keep all such quarrelling from them; if you find such, unfortunately, to take place, at once separate them, and put up bulkheads between them. Take care none of the old beach-combers (European sailors) smuggle themselves on board with the natives.

You had better call at Leifoo before Hayes gets there, and leave before he may arrive.

I think I have now said all I have to mention, and hope you may have a successful voyage.

Mr. Ross Luin.

I am, &c.
(signed) *R. Towns.*

Dear Sir,

29 July 1863.

YOUR vessel is now ready, and victualled with supplies sufficient for the voyage and return with natives, you will at once proceed to sea, and make the best of your way to the Isle of Leifoo, or such other island as you may first make, for the purpose of procuring natives for the cotton fields, with which you will return to Moreton Bay with all possible despatch, where I will in all probability be to receive and direct you. The above is an outline of your intended voyage.

I will now proceed more in detail to instruct you for your future guidance.

The nature of your voyage is, as before stated, to proceed to the different islands of Leifoo, Ware, and Sandwich, and any other islands you may find it necessary to proceed to for the purpose of selecting the natives, and with a view to collect a useful class of men, lads, and active boys. I have engaged Mr. Ross Luin, who speaks the native language, and well known amongst the islands. This man, now shipped as second mate, will do the needful in engaging the men, which I promise to return to their native land within twelve (12) months from the time they leave. You must endeavour to convince the friends of the people, as well as themselves (those you engage), the honesty of our intention, and if there should be any legal authority, give them guarantee to the same object that the people will be returned in accordance with their agreement.

And

And as the natives may not be cognisant with our language, I wish you to be present when these arrangements are made through the interpreter. I have sketched out a memorandum for Mr. Ross Luin to explain to the natives in your presence the terms of their engagement, and the work they have to do; also the rations they will receive; at the same time assuring them of every protection the British law will afford them. In this, you will please to observe we wish you to act as our agent, and not allow any advantage to be taken of the natives, even to our interest.

And when engaged, I look to you to see that they are properly cared for, that they have proper food and attention, and that they are made to keep the place in which they live thoroughly clean.

I have put on board two suits of shirts and trousers for 100 natives. You will please serve out one suit when they first embark, keeping one for their landing. If you can procure 70 natives in all, you may do so; but half the number will do. If you find much difficulty in getting them, on no account attempt force to take the people against their own free-will and consent. If you find any missionaries at the islands, make their acquaintance, and tell them from me what my object is in engaging the natives to leave the island they belong to, and engage for a short season to serve me in cultivating cotton. The labour will be light, in weeding, cleaning, and picking cotton; and I will engage to provide them comfortable huts, and regular rations of rice, meat, pumpkins, potatoes, and yams (if they will grow), and return them to their homes within the 12 months, very likely within six months.

And you may also mention to the missionary, that it is my intention to bring over their wives with them next year if they like the place, and answers my purpose to do so.

I will make their wages for the best men equal to 10*s.* per month, with others in proportion. These natives will have every protection equal to Europeans in Queensland, which is a climate as warm as the one they leave. This much you may tell the missionaries; and if they can find a reader or interpreter, I will gladly receive him, and pay him for what he may be worth, over and above his food and lodging, which I suppose will be little; but he will learn civilisation.

I mean to exchange these people every six or twelve months, and bring over their wives and families with them when they get accustomed to the country and the work.

I have now shadowed forth my views and intentions, and leave you to carry them out; and, in conclusion, I will again repeat, on no account allow the natives to be ill-used. They are a poor, timid, unoffending race, and require all the kindness you can show them. You may lead them to anything, and I will not allow them to be driven.

If you find it difficult to procure the natives through Mr. Ross Luin, you had better run over to Erromanga, to Mr. Henry's station, and he may be able to assist you, should such be necessary, but it will be a disappointment to me if you cannot procure for me from 50 to 70 natives for the purpose required.

In reporting your ship inwards from the islands, be particular, and state the number, names, and ages you have on hand as passengers for Mr. Towns' cotton plantation; let everything be clear in your proceedings. Mr. Palmer, my agent in Brisbane, will have my instructions respecting you, if I am not in Queensland, to which you will please attend.

Use your utmost endeavour to get over the ground, and land the people as soon as possible. You must be a little easy with Mr. Ross Luin, but if he fails to give you satisfaction, go to Mr. Henry, at Erromanga, or Underwood, at Anataw, and they will put a man on.

Captain Grueber, "Don Juan."

Yours, &c.
(signed) R. Towns.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

To any Missionary into whose Hands this may come.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

Rev. Sir,

Sydney, 29 May 1863.

SHOULD this meet the eye of any gentleman in that sacred calling, I beg to explain the nature of the voyage on which I am about to despatch the bearer, Captain Grueber, with the schooner "Don Juan."

If I now address an old resident among the islands, my name will be familiar, and justify a belief in the sincerity of my mission to which I am about to explain, and solicit your friendly aid; if, on the other hand, the reader has not heard of the writer, I may refer him to Captain Grueber, or any man connected with these islands for the last 20 years.

Suffice to say, I have embarked considerable capital in Queensland, in the cultivation of cotton, and as so much depends on the *rate of labour* in the ultimate success of this important enterprise, I am endeavouring to try our natives from the immediate adjacent islands, whose habits, although not strictly industrious, may be rendered most serviceable in the light work of the field labour, in weeding and picking cotton, as the seasons may require. Such being my views on the subject, I have sent this my pioneer vessel to enlist a supply, and will be much obliged if you will kindly assist us in this our worldly mission,

O.90.

A 2

and

Queensland.

and, as I have told your worthy brotherhood, Messrs. Inglis and Geddes, that I with my cotton emigration (returning them every six or twelve months) will do more towards civilising the natives in one year than you can possibly in ten; they will see what civilisation is, and aim to follow it; and if you can supply me with a native *teacher* or *reader*, as they may be termed, it will very much hasten the object; at all events if you cannot assist me in this particular, you may be able to point out to the poor unsuspecting natives that they have nothing to fear, as I will bind myself to return them within 12 months from the time they may leave, and more likely in six months.

If my scheme prospers, it is my intention to bring over the wives and families of these poor fellows, as a superior race to the ordinary coolie from India, about whom we hear so much; and for the light work of cotton-picking they are well calculated.

I send an interpreter, a man who says he can speak the language; this is very important to make the poor fellows understand.

Trusting to your kind assistance,

I remain, &c.
(signed) *R. Towns.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2.

(No. 63.)

Governor Sir
George F. Bowen,
G.C. M.G., to the
Right Hon. the
Earl of Carnarvon.
16 November 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *George F. Bowen*, G.C.M.G., to
the Right Honourable the Earl of *Carnarvon*.

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland,
16 November 1866.

(Answered, No. 5, 1 February 1867, page 24.)

My Lord,

IN continuation of many previous Despatches addressed to your predecessors respecting the progress of cotton cultivation in Queensland, I have the honour to transmit herewith an interesting account which has been recently published, of the "Townsville" Plantation, situated at about 40 miles from Brisbane, and the largest hitherto farmed in this Colony. It is the property of Captain Towns, a well-known Australian merchant and shipowner, and a Member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, and of his partner, Mr. Brooks, a Member of the House of Commons (for Weymouth). I have visited this plantation on several occasions, and believe that the account now forwarded is substantially correct. Some details respecting the South Sea Islanders employed there will be found in my Despatch, No. 49,* of 16th September 1863.

Enclosure No. 1.

* Page 1.

Enclosure No. 2.

2. I transmit further a return of the quantity of cotton grown in this Colony during the past season. It amounted to 183,680 lbs., or 612 bales of clean cotton, fit for shipment. Of this number, 267 bales were furnished by Messrs. Towns and Brooks, from the plantation described above. The crop of cotton raised in Queensland during the last three seasons was as follows:

In 1864	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38,730 lbs.
In 1865	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	145,820 lbs.
In 1866 (first 10 months)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	183,630 lbs.

I am informed that a much larger area of ground will be cultivated for cotton in the season of 1867. I need scarcely remind your Lordship that during the first 60 years of the present century the export trade in cotton from America grew up from much smaller beginnings than those already made in Queensland to an annual amount valued at 40 millions sterling.

3. A summary of the progress and prospects of cotton cultivation in Queensland will be found in my Despatches, Nos. 3 and 13, of 1866, and in the copies sent therewith of letters addressed by me (in answer to his inquiries) to Mr. Cheetham, M.P., the President of the Cotton Supply Association at Manchester. As it appears that the intelligence lately received in England respecting the last cotton crop in America is far from encouraging, I venture to submit that it would be well to forward to the Cotton Supply Association a copy of the present Despatch and of its enclosures.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. F. Bowen.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Townsville Cotton Plantation, Logan River.

Encl. 1, in No. 2.

As cotton growing in Queensland at a not very distant day will be one of the most important branches of industry that will be followed, a truthful and reliable description of the greatest of our plantations ought to be very acceptable. It will go far to encourage others to persevere, seeing that Captain Towns and his spirited partner, Mr. Brooks, of London, have done much to demonstrate the question that Queensland can produce cotton, the full commercial value of which is as yet unascertained, from its properties being so remarkably superior to any other class of cotton in the market. Unlike many others that started cotton growing, and gave it up at the very first failure, Captain Towns has persevered, and something like returns are at hand for the expenditure incurred. *Two hundred and sixty-seven* bales have been sent away from the plantation the past season, and now 450 acres are planted. The plantation is worked by South Sea Islanders.

Description of Plantation.

Townsville Plantation consists of about 4,000 acres of land on the upper part of the Logan River, 20 miles above the head of the navigation, and about 40 miles south of Brisbane. It is very nearly on the 28th parallel of south latitude, and on the 153rd degree of east longitude. It is near the station of Bromelton. The position is considerably elevated, and the banana does not fruit very well there, although it is only about 30 miles from the coast. The first appearance of the plantation, on approaching the gates, is rather relieving after a long and monotonous ride. The clearing stretches before you up the broad flat for more than a mile, and at present the tracts of the watercourses are easily traceable, and the numerous bridges, painted white, are quite conspicuous in the plantation. The whole of the cotton is just green down the rows, as you pass a sight down the lines. Immediately on getting through the gate you come to the little house occupied by Mr. Ross Lewin, the superintendent of the South Sea Islanders employed on the plantation. On the right, across the cultivation, is seen the homestead, a large number of buildings that appear all to be very low, with the exception of the new cotton chamber, which stands very prominently in the midst. The plantation is crossed by several straight roads, and one runs down the middle of the whole. We cross two bridges, and through the far gate to the homestead, and are welcomed to the plantation.

Ride over the Plantation.

After dinner a fresh horse was saddled, and a ride over the whole plantation enabled one further to realise the extent of the cultivation, and to see all the islanders at work in their different places. The land is a black, deep, alluvial soil, very good, but not fat, nicely working with the plough, and not liable to bake. There is, however, slight changes in it, but nothing to mention. As the plantation runs up between two ridges in a complete flat, averaging about half a mile wide, and is three miles from end to end of the two plantations. There are about 250 acres in the lower and 200 in the upper plantation already cultivated and planted. As a matter of course, all the thinnest timbered land has been put in cultivation first, and most of it has been exceedingly thinly timbered with small apple trees. It is now considerably thicker wherever the plantations will be extended. There is a large area of heavier land between the two plantations, but this has not yet been encroached upon. Some of the slopes on the northern side of the whole will, when cleared, be nice working land, and easier to keep clean than some of the flat is. There are roads crossing at right angles the long road right up the plantation, and the old creeks and hollows are all cleaned out and bridged over with very good bridges. There is in the first plantation a large new building, 60 feet by 40, divided into two rooms, occupied by the islanders of agreeable parties. The building is built of weatherboard, and covered with grass, and has a broad verandah all round. The verandah at one end is made into a tool-house. The rooms are fitted up inside with bunks all round, two in height, all broad enough for two. They are supplied with blankets, and thick sacking for the bottoms. I should imagine they are too close for all English notions of health, though there are plenty of air windows; they are quite under the roof from the verandah, and they admit no light except by the door. There is also a fire in the middle of the floor, and plenty of fleas jump about. No doubt it is a palace to anything the islanders ever dwelt in, and as they would build it nearly themselves, if any windows had been deemed necessary they would have been left. There is also in the upper plantation an overseer's house, with quite a neat latticed verandah for training runners up to cool the house; and several other dwellings for islanders, and sheds and tool-houses.

The Cotton.

This season's planting commenced on the 25th August, and the last planted would be on 3rd November. The first planted is about six inches high, and the dry weather following a deal was re-planted, and is now ready for horse hoeing. The after planted is looking
o.90. more

Queensland.

more regular, and there is a good plant. As the planting has been continued without intermission, there are all grades of plants, to where it is just peeping out. There is also a large area not yet up. The method of sowing so thickly gives plenty of choice against all disease and insects. With the exception of about three acres of Sea Island, all the plantation is entirely new plants. The three acres are an experiment, and as it did not seem that the stumps were properly shooting it has been planted between also. This is considered very expensive, and no more will be pruned down. The principal part of the plantation is New Orleans, and only about 30 acres are planted with Sea Island.

Ploughing by Steam.

On the upper part of the plantation I found the steam plough at work, busily finishing ploughing the last plot of land for this season's cotton crop. It is worked entirely by islanders, with an English engineer, that scarcely ever has to leave the engine. The land had had cotton on before, and was very full of weed, which was being taken off before the ploughing. The engine is an ordinary portable engine of 12-horse power, with double cylinders and reverse motion. It is one of Roby's, of Lincoln. It is attached to the drums, on which is wound the wire rope, by means of shackles from the end of the shaft of the fly-wheel. The drums are on a car to themselves, and are Howard's, of Bedford, gearing, as is also the plough. The drums are about four feet diameter and one foot broad, with deep flanges, and have cog-wheels on each outer side. They are fitted on an eccentric axle, so that each drum can be lifted up to the over working cog-wheels that work from the end of the fly-wheel axle. This gives the drums two motions without the reversing motion of the engine. And the one pulling the plough is only driven, and the other being let down simply lets go the rope the plough pulls back. This allows in all ways for any inequality of ground, distance, or size of drum by rope. The rope is taken round the field, and is supported on little wheels called porters, and at the corners by horizontal wheels, called corner blocks. All these wheels are pulley-wheels for saving the rope, and for giving it the turns at the corners. The corner wheels are kept fast by claw anchors, the two at each end of the furrow held down by three hands that regulated them as the work proceeded. The plough is mounted on four single flanged wheels, about two feet high, and consists of the bodies of six ploughs exactly the same as other ordinary ploughs, fastened under two strong frameworks of iron, on each of which are three ploughs to plough three furrows, each 10 inches broad, and any desired depth each way. When one frame is ploughing the other is elevated out of the ground, not to save turning round, but because no plough can plough backwards and forwards on the same furrow, inasmuch as one, the ordinary plough, turns the furrow over to the right, whereas the second three ploughs on the steam plough turn to the left. There is thus no ridge and furrow in steam ploughing. It is all left uniformly. The ploughman, an acute and knowing sort of islander, seems quite at home on the dickey of the plough, which is steered by handles acting on the wheels the same as shafts on the fore-wheels of waggons, though not quite in the same style. As the ends are differently ploughing the steering apparatus is altered, one being made fast, whilst the other is used. When the plough gets to the end of the furrow a signalman with a red flag stops the engine, and then the men at the corner wheels assist the ploughman in elevating the one lot of ploughs from the ground, and in lowering the others. The signalman then hails the engine driver, and off the plough gets back to the other end. This process is continued, and the plough is brought backwards and forwards continually; and five or six acres a day is gone over on an average, although eight or nine can be accomplished if the land is quite clear from weeds, and the plough pass without choking between the frames and different bodies. A man, however, with a handspike follows and keeps this clean.

Attending to the engine is one with horse and water barrel, that is filled by a pump from a lagoon; another with horse and cart, carting firewood that is being cut to suitable lengths in the bush at hand by others. There are also pulley men that oil and look after the pulleys.

From this description of the working of the steam plough, it will be seen that all the motions of the gear-work will enable a large block of, say 40 acres, to be ploughed with the engine fixed in the middle, and ploughing it in four squares of 10 acres each, by fixing the ropes and pulleys round the squares alternately to be ploughed.

Planting.

All the work to completion is being proceeded with at once. There was following the steam plough five bullock and two horse-teams harrowing each, I must say, well managed by an islander. I fully expected to hear amongst these untutored youths of nature some of the language so frequently associated with bullock driving, but the slightest attempt was never heard. They all went about their work remarkably well, and used sufficient encouragement to keep the bullocks well on. Next following these comes more than a score gathering weeds, and cleaning up before the drilling plough comes to make the seed furrow.

The drilling plough, or ploughs rather, for there are three, fastened on a beam that elings behind a pair of dray wheels, the same as the marker of an old drill-sowing machine. These are the bodies of small American ploughs, and are set five feet apart, doing three rows at once. A Scotchman drives this, and a couple of islanders follow to keep

keep the plough clean and the proper depth. Next came the youths with the seed; and here all my pre-conceived notions of cotton planting were entirely upset. The seed was carted into the field in the morning, a cart-load or two. The sowers had large bags full slung over their backs, and as they stepped up the furrow large handfuls were dashed in till the furrow was quite white. This Mr. Walker explained to me as being of great importance, to secure a good standard plant from plenty of choice; also, it is a provision for seed being bad, and for tillage, it being the practice in some of the Southern cotton States to return all the seed to the land for tillage. Then followed the men covering the seed with earth, care being taken to keep aside the clods. Then follows another dark-coloured gentleman, perched on the dickey of a double-shafted roller, rolling away as pert in the management of his horses as any of St. Cabby's most devoted followers. I am told these men attend to their horses wholly themselves, fettling them up in the morning, corn-ing, cleaning, and yoking them for work, quite astonishingly. There are nearly 70 men here, including the teamsters. Thirty more are hoeing weed in another place; some are fencing at the homestead, others repairing boundary fence. The rest are horsemen, bullock drivers, and stockmen, somewhere else. There are also seven or eight of them cooks, making a total of 170 black men. There are also on the plantation, three carpenters, two engineers, one blacksmith, three overseers, one clerk and storekeeper, the manager, and a few others, making a total of 185 persons.

Picking.

The last season's picking commenced 5th February, and continued more or less to the 25th August, when the planting again commenced. There were about 80 islanders, and when they had not full days their time was employed in grubbing round standing trees for Ross Lewin's gang; or they were ginning, drying, and turning, and removing the cotton picked from trays to the drying chamber. How steadily these men work, the following figures will most strikingly show. They are arranged by myself, and the quantities were taken from the "picking book," kindly placed at my disposal by the general manager.

Date.	Lbs.	Average each.
2 May - - -	5,225 picked by 80 - - -	65.25
15 May - - -	4,952 " - - -	61.72
27 May - - -	5,514 " - - -	68.74
1 June - - -	4,270 " - - -	53.30
27 June - - -	4,492 " - - -	56.12
Total - -	24,453	305.13
Averaging -	4,890 lbs., or - - -	61.02

The above shows 61 lbs. of cotton with seed to be the average picking of five full days. The greatest picking by one man in one day, I noted the entry in the book, to be "27th June, Charlie, 90 lbs." The smallest was Ebzr., 32 lbs. The cotton is gathered into bags in the field, and each man brings his own bag home at night, and the cotton is weighed without the bag, and an account kept of every day's picking by every man. The weighing very often is done in the candle-light, and every day prizes are given for extra work, and for encouragement to some that may have had poorer cotton to look over. These prizes consist of pocket knives, beads, all colours, buckles, belts, pipes, and figs and cakes of tobacco. Tobacco is mostly used throughout the whole of the islanders, and is always given more or less besides the prize tobacco. All the machinists, ploughmen, bullock drivers, horsemen, stockmen, &c., get extra tobacco daily. Some that get more than they can smoke, truck it away amongst their friends for pearls, beads, and other trinkets; and not unfrequently an Australian aboriginal will drive a close bargain with the islander for his tobacco with a coloured dilly bag. The two races, however, look with supreme indifference on the peculiarities of each other, and on the whole there never is much bother amongst them.

Ginning.

The cotton, after being weighed from the field, is spread out to dry either on sheets on the ground, on trays under awnings, or on the floor of the great chamber, just as occurs the work and chance. It is thoroughly dried in the chamber, and turned over backwards till the chamber is quite full up to the roof. The chamber is 60 feet by 35 feet, and is well-ventilated by windows all round, and covered with corrugated galvanised iron. This mixing and rolling back into a great thickness gives the cotton one uniform quality of texture and colour. When that desirable result is obtained, the cotton is ready for ginning. It is then carried down a gangway into the chamber over the gin and the ginned cotton-room, and is fed into the gin, a splendid one, with 75 saws, driven by a 10-horse power engine of Stewart and Copeland's, of Glasgow. The gin is four feet six inches broad, so that the saws are nearly three-quarter of an inch from each other. These saws are nearly the same as one foot circulars, with a gauge of wood between them all fastened on an axle, and they work through slits in a curved plate of iron, and the seed falls off the plate down one side into a room to itself, and is filled into a little tram-waggon and sent into another room to be kept, or it is run down a little railway and tipped off the end of a staging. The cotton is caught on the other side of the saws by a lot of brushes turning
0.90. against

Queensland.

against the saws like the brushes in a flour dressing mill, and they act like a fan also, in blowing the fibre across a room under where the gin is being fed. This room is closed in when the gin is at work, and the cotton settles all over according to its weight. When this is full the gin is stopped, and the cotton is thoroughly mixed up again to obtain an equal sample. The door is then opened under the gangway before mentioned, and which leads to the packing and pressing. The press is lined with the bagging for the bale, and is filled up from the room by baskets full. This is pressed down a time or two, till the bale is large enough, and then the sides of the model are opened when the screw is down. The cloth for the end of the bale was fastened under the press that went down, and the top and front and back sides are stitched together. The other sides of the model are then opened, the bale turned out, and the remaining sides stitched fast. The bale is then branded

TOWNSVALE
COTTON,
1866.

R. T. B.

No. —

The last was numbered 267. It is then placed on the drays, that are all loaded in the shed under the great chamber; and when all the bullock drays are loaded it is sent to Brisbane, *en route* for England. The journey there and back to Brisbane is performed in a week, and the bullock drays are driven by islanders, with one man in charge to get delivery to the agents.

The Homestead.

The homestead of the plantation is situated on the end of a thickly-timbered ridge between the cultivation and the river, close to several large lagoons. Apparently, there never was any plan or order of going to work when the plantation was started. All the older buildings are scattered about here and there, and front all directions. These, however, are being pulled down where they are obnoxious, or changed a little where they will serve anything, and look a little more uniformly. The buildings consist of manager's house, quite a little unpretending structure, but quite convenient at present for the manager, who is a single gentleman, housekeeper's rooms, and kitchen; the latter one of the old log style of houses. These are inclosed with a neat paling fence; the front being a little garden, containing choice flowers, bananas, and a neat little arbour surrounded with passion fruit. The back yard contains fowl-house, with turkeys, ducks, and fowls of all descriptions. At the end of this is another little square plot paved in, and as yet contains only one house for carpenters, blacksmiths, engineers, &c. In front of this is the machine shed, blacksmith's shop, and carpenter's shop, all good buildings and ample enough for the plantation. At the end of these two squares stand the large building used as cotton chamber, and shed for packing, loading, &c., and for all the carriages. Across the end of this runs the ginning sheds or rather houses, built of galvanised iron and covered with grass. These are to be altered and made another storey higher, up to the level of the great shed, but still following out the same principle of facilities in working the cotton a regular round. The engine is fixed under a shedding at the end of this building, and between it and the saw-mill. The saw-mill is fitted up with moveable trucks to the bench, and every kind of sawing is advantageously done, as plenty of pine is growing in the neighbourhood. There is also a 28-inch French stone flour mill for grinding maize into meal after it has been split by another machine, both in an adjoining little room to the engine. There is also a grindstone and other useful machinery here. There are also several different sorts of stores, all well supplied. Stables, butchers' shops, stockyards, all miscellaneous set round. At the homestead there is only two houses used by the islanders, as the wishes of these have been consulted, and different tribes dwell in different parts of the plantation in large houses, well built of weatherboard, and thatched. The whole of the homestead is kept remarkably clean, and it is only by the butchering stock-yard there is any olfactory disagreeableness. This, however, is to be expected from all the model slaughter-yards I have seen in Queensland, where beef is 2*d.* the pound. A bullock is killed every two days, from a mob of 1,000 head of cattle running about and belonging to Captain Towns.

The Islanders.

The South Sea Islanders on the plantation are mostly from the Isles of Tanna, Sandwich, Malicolo, and Erromango, in the New Hebrides. They are well-shaped men, mostly black, with short curly hair; they are all remarkably full across the eyebrows, with a deep indent across the nose between the eyes. The nose varies, and some well-shaped faces are among them; they are remarkably docile and quiet, a fight never occurring amongst them at work or any time. They use the hoe very well, but the shovel I noticed they used with the fore hand turned in, and not thumb forward, as is the practice amongst white men. In every other instance I noticed they use tools quite free and easy, always slipping

slipping the fore hand down the handles, especially in axework is this necessary to work easy.

They start work in the morning at 6 o'clock when the bell rings; at 8 they stop an hour for breakfast, and then go on till 12. In winter one hour, and now two hours at noon; they then go on till near sundown so as to have supper before dark. They work very steady, especially the older portion of them, but the late arrivals are apt to look at the engines, the working bullocks, and the horses, and require a good deal of watching. They also are either very inferior men, or the keep at the plantation speaks well for the change the older part have undergone. They all appear quite contented. They receive 1½lb. rice and 1½lb. beef each a day. They have nothing else, and they prefer rice to Indian corn meal with molasses, when it is changed now and again. They drink nothing but water. They have clothing what they want, and I should prefer that they wanted more. I think they should be taught to make flannel skirts like the East Indian wears, or like the Scotch skirt. It would be light, airy, and not near so objectionable as some of them appear. The new comers take more than a year before they can work much, and then when they are fairly in working order their time is out, and they have to leave.

Illness and Death.

Amongst the late arrivals there has been some illness, and a couple of deaths occurred amongst them during my visit. It appears that there is the greatest difficulty in doctoring these men when ill. They will not take anything but the regular rice and beef, and they will not make their case known till quite hopeless. Mr. Ross Lewin told me they never recover when once very ill, and that in the islands they have no application of medicine, botany, or anything, and will take nothing. Here Mr. Walker, Mr. Ross Lewin, and myself went through all manner of persuasions to get some wine and sago down one of these fellows' throats; but all to very little use. One of them held the glass to his mouth as if drinking, but not a drop went down for a long while, and as soon as the eye was turned the glass was put back. The two that died only would be persuaded when near the point of death.

A Funeral.

The islanders seem to have some fear of the dead, and they do not like to touch them and put them into their coffins. The coffin was made by the carpenter from cedar, and was neatly shaped and jointed. The dead man was rolled up, with a clean white guernsey shirt on, in his blue blanket, and was thus placed in the coffin. In the afternoon all the men on the estate stopped work, and attended at the funeral. The bell tolled as the men collected to the place, whilst the corpse was being carried from the house to a little spring waggon driven by an islander. The *cortège* then moved slowly off towards the burying-ground on the banks of the Logan behind a scrub, and nearly a mile from the homestead. When approaching the grave Mr. Walker, the manager, commenced reading the solemn service for the burial of the dead. When at the grave and the coffin was lowered, I confess that I felt a little at some parts of the service, when I looked at the black faces around, and not one of them in the slightest moved. "O death, where is thy sting! O grave, where is thy victory!" appears to them totally incomprehensible.

Land in the Neighbourhood.

A ride with the manager over to an adjoining cattle station enabled me to see the land further upon the Logan about Beaudesert, and on the head of the Albert, at Nindooibah, where the racecourse is for the stockmen in the neighbourhood. Leaving Townsville there is little good open land till within sight of Beaudesert, and there the land opens out into a magnificent flat, very thinly timbered, with gently sloping ridges from the Albert side that really are splendid soil. Some of the slopes are chocolate-coloured, thinly timbered, and others black and rather thicker. The whole extent of land here for about five miles is of the best description, and opens out with larger slopes of better land than even Townsville, and I should not be surprised at some future day to see hereabouts a second edition of Townsville. In turning over the ridge to the left, towards Nindooibah, the scenery backwards is quite picturesque in the mountains, and Keats' Peak, Mount French, and Mount Edwards tower their heads amongst others on the main range, and towards the boundary of New South Wales. At Nindooibah the vale is rather too narrow and the slopes too abrupt to be to any great extent fit for cultivation. But further down, on the racecourse and below, is a fair extent of good land, and what is wanted is a good road from the head of the navigation on the Logan, round by all these places to the head of the navigation on the Albert, and there is scope enough for lots of cotton plantations.

Clearing Land.

This work is performed by a gang of about 30 of the islanders that have been better than two years on the plantation, and are by far the best men on the whole estate. They are superintended by Mr. Ross Lewin, an old trader amongst the islanders for more than 20 years, and who consequently has a thorough knowledge of their manners, customs, and habits; and I think the services of this portion, and all the men that are now doing the

Queensland.

better jobs, was obtained for Captain Towns by Mr. Ross Lewin's agency. The trees are all dug round, and all the roots cut off down to 15 or 18 inches in depth, according to the size of the tree. They are rung at the same time. A large area will be done in this manner, and then the trees are to be pulled down. This operation was being carried on when I was there, and it is done most expeditiously. The trees are pulled down by blocks and tackling by a team of bullocks. First an islander ties a small cord to an iron cotter, and another winds the cord in his hand, and stands by the one who throws the cotter clean over any particular branch, and the cord leaves the hand of the second without any check, whilst the thrower undergoes some exertion in the dexterous manœuvre. A strong rope is fastened to the end of the cord, and this is pulled back over the branch. A noose is made in one end, and one is pulled up the tree, and gets to the place where best to fasten to. By the rope a large chain is pulled up and fastened round the tree. Then the end of a strong steel wire pennant is hung to the chain, and the islander then is let down from the tree. Others have fastened chains round the butt of one of the standing trees behind, and the large blocks with the bullocks are hung on, and the island bullock-driver brings the tree down with a crash. Sometimes a group of five or six lesser trees will be pulled over at one haul, by coupling them, or surrounding them with a wire rope. The trees are then cut up by others, with axes for small branches, and cross-cut saws for the thicker. Some more are working at the stumps with hacks, cleaning it of earth; others are logging the thicker parts. Trees are surrounded in all manners, and left ready for piling and burning; as many as 40 and 50 are pulled down in a day and disposed of. I noticed some of these men to be capital cross-cutters and axe-men. Indeed, it would puzzle many white men to cross-cut large branches on the under side, when the saw was bitten with the weight on the cut, or to work the saw when both sawyers had to stand on some branch four or five feet high. These men are as nimble as cats, and can stand anywhere. The piling and burning are left this time, and the bullocks have to haul all the bigger logs. The holes from where the trees are turned out are then filled, and levelled, and the steam plough comes next. This land is thinly timbered, and between 4*l.* and 5*l.* is the average estimate per acre for clearing. Some of the very large trees could not be turned over with the tackling then used, but strong chains and blocks with three or four pulleys could be rigged out. It is also the general manager's intention to make tackling for pulling trees down without any grubbing whatever, to be on the lever principle.

Encl. 2, in No. 2.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

The Cotton Crop of 1866.

THE Cotton Crop of 1866 being all gathered, it may be interesting to know what quantities have been grown during the past season. The return of the cotton submitted to inspection for the Government bonus will give the information. This we append below, and it shows the crop to have amounted to 183,680 lbs., or 612 bales of clean cotton, fit for shipment. The bonus is given in the form of a land-order, and is considered as equivalent to 4*d.* for every pound of clean cotton. On the quantity of cotton here given, land-orders, equal to a money-value of 3,148*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, were granted. In the detailed statement below, the names show to whom the bonus was given, together with the quantity of cotton for which it was granted:—

	<i>Lbs.</i>		<i>Lbs.</i>
Alexander & Armour	62,293	Joseph Denman	1,306
G. Board & Son	5,197	Jackson & Pullen	434
Cribb & Foote	49,899	Mort, Holland, & Co.	1,897
E. H. Price	5,593	R. Towns	11,712
J. & G. Harris	2,357	C. Taron	1,609
Carl T. Sahl & Co.	3,442	John Smith	1,545
G. Raff & Co.	6,014	W. Jones	1,801
G. M. Challinor	5,892	W. Dee	543
Wienholt & Co.	332	J. Dear	273
G. H. Wilson & Co.	410	H. Shelton	447
G. Verrall	4,486	Perrit & Toms	619
C. Dun	579	E. Griffiths	1,362
J. Statham	2,222	Joseph Rice	2,594
M. Donnelly	309	T. Gardner	257
J. Pettigrew	2,572	J. Marsh	494
Waldron Brothers	1,621	H. Rice	594
J. Spencer	206	Nutley & Sons	655
W. Hodges	867		
T. Gray	224		
William Streaker	1,028		
		TOTAL	183,680

— No. 3. —

(No. 36.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir *George F. Bowen*, G. C. M. G.,
to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland,
13 July 1867.

(Answered, No. 40, 9 November 1867, page 24.)

My Lord Duke,

IN my Despatch, No. 49,* of 16th September 1863, I reported that a small number of South Sea Islanders from the Polynesian group had been lately employed on his cotton plantation in Queensland, by Captain Towns, a wealthy merchant and ship-owner of Sydney, and a Member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales. I added that Captain Towns had furnished full information to the Government of Queensland respecting these immigrants, and I transmitted copies of his engagements with them, of his instructions to his agents, of a circular on the subject addressed by him to the European missionaries in the South Sea Islands, and of his official letter to the Chief Secretary of this Colony (Mr. Herbert), explaining his plans and operations. The greatest possible publicity was given to these documents at the time by laying them before the Queensland Parliament, by which they appear to have been considered satisfactory. I further observed that even if Captain Town's position and character were not a sufficient guarantee for his fair treatment of these South Sea Islanders, his plantation was only 40 miles from Brisbane, under the eye of the Government, of the magistracy, and of a vigilant press, and that I intended to visit it myself occasionally.

2. I have now the honour to report that on the 25th April ultimo, Captain Luce, R.N., of H.M.S. "Esk," then the senior naval officer in Australia, addressed to me an official letter, stating that he had lately received accounts of the loss of several vessels, and of the murder of several Europeans at certain of the South Sea Islands; and that it appeared, from a letter written by a trader in those seas, that "the natives say that they are perpetrating these atrocities in revenge for the loss of many of their countrymen, who were carried away three years ago to Queensland and the Fiji Islands, by Europeans, who hired them as labourers, and promised to return them to their homes in 12 months." Captain Luce asked for whatever information on this subject the Government of Queensland might be able to afford him.

3. I lost no time in bringing Captain Luce's letter under the consideration of my Responsible Advisers, and I now enclose a copy of the Minute of the Executive Council, containing their views upon it, and giving all the information procurable in Queensland: Captain Towns, the principal employer of the South Sea Islanders, being resident at Sydney, where Captain Luce could place himself in direct communication with that gentleman.

4. I sent a copy of this Minute to Captain Luce, further informing him that the official returns show that in the aggregate only three hundred and eighty-two (382) South Sea Islanders have landed in Queensland, of which number seventy-eight (78) have returned to their homes. It is stated that those already sent back were under an engagement for one year only; that most of the remainder are under engagements for three years; and that they will be provided with passages to their native islands when that period shall have expired. I added that the principal employer of these labourers, after Captain Towns, of Sydney, is Captain Whish, formerly an officer in Her Majesty's 14th Light Dragoons, and now the resident owner of a sugar plantation near Brisbane.

5. It will be seen from the accompanying Minute of Council, that the Government of Queensland in common with myself "are anxious to punish all fraud and injustice wherever committed, and to secure the inhabitants of the Colony, of every class, in the full enjoyment of their rights;" and that "should it be

No. 3.

Governor Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.,
to the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

13 July 1867.

* Page 1.

3 May 1867.

Queensland.

proved that further legislation is required for the due protection of the South Sea Islanders, the Council do not doubt that the Colonial Parliament will be ready to pass any measure which facts and documents hereafter to be laid before them may show to be absolutely necessary ;” and that “ in the meantime the police magistrate of the district is ordered to inspect periodically the plantations on which any such islanders may be employed.”

6. In reply to my Despatch, transmitting to him a copy of the Minute of Council, with the above-mentioned information, Captain Luce stated (in a letter, dated June 4th ultimo), that he “ is now well satisfied that the South Sea labour traffic to Queensland will continue to be carried on with justice, and will be of great benefit to the natives themselves.”

* Statutes of
Queensland, vol. 2,
p. 991.

7. I am advised that the “ Master and Servants Act ”* (25 Vict., No. 11), now in force in Queensland, applies to labourers engaged in all “ foreign countries,” and that (as it has been already stated) the Colonial Legislature will be ready to pass any further measure which may be proved hereafter to be necessary to ensure the maintenance of just and proper relations between the South Sea Islanders and their employers. It will be recollected that, in 1862, the Queensland Parliament passed an “ Act to give the force of law to regulations for the introduction and protection of labourers from British India ” (26 Vict., No. 5),† and that the regulations published under the authority of that Act received the sanction of the authorities of British India, and the approval of the Imperial Government. Hitherto, however, no advantage has been taken of the provisions of this Act, for those settlers who look to the employment of coloured labour on their sugar and cotton plantations seem to prefer South Sea Islanders to Indians, on the ground (as I am informed) that the former are at once stronger and more tractable than the latter.

† See Statutes of
Queensland, vol. 1,
p. 831.

8. I have on several occasions visited the principal plantations on which immigrants from the South Sea Islands are engaged ; and, last week, I made it my business to inspect the plantation of Captain Towns, who is (as it has been already said) the first and by far the largest employer of this kind of labour. One hundred and sixty (160) islanders were then paraded before me ; and they all seemed to be well fed, well clothed, and perfectly contented. Many of them are to be soon restored to their homes at the cost of Captain Towns, as the period of their engagements is about to expire ; and several of these men stated that they would return to Queensland shortly, and would induce their wives and numbers of their countrymen to accompany them.

‡ Page 4.

9. In my Despatch, No. 63,‡ of the 16th November ultimo, I transmitted a full account of the Townsvale Plantation referred to above, and of the general progress of the cultivation of cotton in Queensland. Mr. Charles Cowper, for many years at the head of the Administration in New South Wales, is now a partner in the firm of Towns & Co., and accompanied me on my recent visit. From him I learned that at least four hundred (400) bales of cotton, of the average value of about 15 £, will be exported during the present year from this single plantation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. F. Bowen.*

Encl. in No. 3.

Enclosure in No. 3.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Proceedings of the Executive Council of Queensland.

At the Government House, Brisbane.

Present:—His Excellency the Governor in Council.

HIS Excellency the Governor lays before the Council a letter (dated 25th April 1867) addressed to his Excellency by Captain Luce, R.N., now commanding Her Majesty's naval forces on the Australian station.

This

This letter states that Captain Luce had lately received reports of the loss of several vessels, and of the murder of several Europeans at certain of the South Sea Islands; and that it appears, from a letter written by a trader in those seas, that "the natives say that they are perpetrating these atrocities in revenge for the loss of many of their countrymen, who were carried away three years ago to Queensland and the Fiji Islands by Europeans, who hired them as labourers, and promised to return them to their homes in 12 months."

Captain Luce asks for information on the subject from the Government of Queensland.

The Council deliberate. They observe that the first and principal importer of South Sea Islanders as labourers into this Colony is the Honourable Robert Towns, Member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, and resident at Sydney, but the owner of a cotton plantation in Queensland. This gentleman can give Captain Luce more information on the subject than any other person, and they suggest that personal application should be made to him. Moreover, it is believed that the small number of South Sea Islanders who have hitherto come to work in Queensland on the new sugar and cotton plantations have all been landed from ships belonging to Sydney.

The Council further observe that the Masters' and Servants' Act (25 Vict., No. 11), now in force in Queensland, provides for the due enforcement by both parties of labour contracts, whether made in this Colony or in foreign countries. Should it be proved that further legislation is required for the due protection of the South Sea Islanders, the Council do not doubt but that the Colonial Parliament will be ready to pass any measures which facts and documents hereafter to be laid before them may show to be absolutely necessary.

It need scarcely be said that the Responsible Ministers are anxious to punish all fraud and injustice whenever committed, and to secure the inhabitants of the Colony, of every class, in the full enjoyment of their rights.

The Council advise that the proper Government officers be directed to procure the information respecting the number of South Sea Islanders now in Queensland, &c., as asked for by Captain Luce, R.N., and also that the police magistrate of the district be ordered to inspect periodically the plantations on which any such islanders may be employed, and to report to the Colonial Secretary the results of such inspection.

(signed) A. V. Drury,
Clerk of the Council.

— No. 4. —

(No. 12.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Acting Governor O'Connell to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland,
27 January 1868.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace herewith a petition for presentation to the Queen, purporting to be a petition from a number of the inhabitants of the Colony of Queensland in public meeting assembled in the City of Brisbane, praying that Her most gracious Majesty will be pleased to prohibit this traffic in human beings (meaning the importation of natives of the South Sea Islands into Queensland for employment on sugar and cotton plantations and on sheep and cattle stations), as being a development of the slave trade, with its attendant evils, in its most modern form.

2. This petition was brought to me by a deputation consisting of Mr. Alderman Jeays, who signs it, and who was formerly mayor of this city, and Mr. Robert Short, a gentleman connected with the press, and one who has delivered several public lectures adverse to the importation of South Sea Islanders.

3. The petition being couched in respectful terms, and the deputation waiting on me to request that it might be forwarded, being inhabitants of this city of

o.go.

B 3

good

No. 4.

Acting Governor
O'Connell
to the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
27 January 1868

Queensland.

good fame and respectability. I have deemed it my duty, in view of the common right of Her Majesty's subjects to lay their grievances before Her by petition, to enclose this to your Grace for presentation.

* Page 11.

† Page 24.

4. The subject to which this petition refers, is one which has already been brought under your Grace's notice by Governor Sir G. F. Bowen in his Despatch (No. 36,* of the 13th July 1867), and I directed your Grace's answer to that Despatch (No. 40,† of the 9th November 1867), which was received by the last mail, to be laid before both Houses of Parliament during the last week.

5. I may inform your Grace that there is a Bill now before the Parliament of Queensland, and which has already passed the Legislative Council, intended to protect and regulate the immigration of South Sea Islanders into this colony, and that this Bill contains all the provisions for their protection, pointed out in your Grace's Despatch, above alluded to, of the 9th November 1867.

6. I believe and trust the fears of the persons who now petition Her Majesty in reference to the employment of South Sea Islanders in this Colony are unnecessarily excited; at least, I am sure that when once within the boundaries of the Colony they will be safe from any treatment which by any stretch of imagination can be termed slavery.

7. I do not feel so certain, however, as to the mode in which they have hitherto been allowed to be engaged by unauthorised persons on the islands from whence they come; but the Bill, of which I enclose a copy in its latest stage, endeavours to provide a remedy in this respect, and I have no doubt your Grace's communication to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, as mentioned in your Despatch (No. 40, of 9th November 1867), will have a beneficial effect.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. C. O'Connell.*

Enclosure No. 2.

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

Encl. 1, in No. 4. To Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

The Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants of the Colony of Queensland in Public Meeting assembled in the City of Brisbane:

Humbly sheweth—

THAT your Majesty's Petitioners have viewed with much anxiety the introduction into this Colony of a large number of natives of the South Sea Islands by private individuals to work as labourers on sugar plantations, cotton plantations, and on sheep and cattle stations.

That these natives have been, and are still, being brought without the sanction of your Majesty's Government, without any Colonial law to control or regulate their introduction, to protect them afterwards, or to secure their return home on the expiration of term of service

That your Petitioners have reason to believe that many of these natives have been kidnapped and brought forcibly here, and others under false and deceptive representations; while many have been induced to come by the promise that they should be conveyed home within twelve months; that this promise has not been fulfilled, but, on the contrary, that many of these natives have been detained in the Colony for periods of three years and upwards, on the allegation they had engaged for that time.

That this breach of faith, combined with the illegal manner in which these natives have been obtained, has led to the loss of several vessels, and to the murder of several Europeans at the South Sea Islands by the natives in revenge for the abduction and detention of their kindred. These facts are confirmed by Captain J. P. Luce, of your Majesty's steamer "Este," the senior naval officer on the Australian station,

station, who communicated to Sir George Ferguson Bowen, on the 25th of April, A.D. 1867, as follows:—"I have lately received reports of the loss of several vessels, and the murder of several Europeans at Hinchinbrook, and other islands of the New Hebrides group. I enclose an extract from a letter written by a trader in that group, wherein you will see that he is informed the natives say they are doing these atrocities in revenge for the loss of many of their countrymen who were carried away three years ago to Queensland and Fiji Islands by Europeans who hired them as labourers, and promised to return them to their homes in twelve months."

Your Petitioners have regarded with dismay the introduction of an inferior and uncivilised race into this Colony to supplant the British and European labourers, as it will have the effect of reducing to destitution and inactivity the working classes of the Colony who have been induced to emigrate here in large numbers by the hope of finding in Queensland an independent home and permanent employment, and they earnestly advert to such introduction being irreconcilably opposed to the constitution of the Colony, and the intention of its foundation.

Wherefore your Majesty's humble Petitioners most humbly pray that your most gracious Majesty will be pleased to prohibit this traffic in human beings as being a development of the slave trade, with its attendant evils in its most modern form.

And your most gracious Majesty's Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Signed by the Chairman, at the unanimous request of, and in behalf of, the said Public Meeting,

Brisbane, Queensland,
16 January 1868.

Joshua Jeays.

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

THIS Public Bill originated in the Legislative Council, and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence. Encl. 2, in No. 4.

(signed) *Henry Johnson,*
Legislative Council Chamber, Brisbane, Clerk of the Parliaments.
19 December 1867.

QUEENSLAND.

ANNO TRICESIMO PRIMO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No.

A BILL to Regulate and Control the Introduction and Treatment of POLYNESIAN LABOURERS.*

WHEREAS many persons have deemed it desirable and necessary, in order to enable them to carry on their operations in tropical and semi-tropical agriculture, to introduce to the Colony Polynesian labourers: And whereas it is necessary for the prevention of abuses, and for securing to the labourers proper treatment and protection, as well as for securing to the employer the due fulfilment by the immigrant of his agreement, that regulations for the control of such immigration should be framed: And whereas it is necessary that such regulations should receive direct Legislative sanction: Be it therefore enacted, by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Queensland, in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. It shall not be lawful for any person or persons to introduce any Polynesian labourers into the Colony of Queensland, unless and except in accordance with the regulations contained in the schedule to this Act, and the forms thereunto attached.

Preamble.
Not lawful to introduce Polynesian labourers, except according to regulations.

* The Act, as passed by the Legislature on the 18th February 1868, and assented to by the Acting Governor, on the 4th March 1868 (No. 47), is printed as an Appendix.

Queensland.

SCHEDULE.

- Form of application** 1. All persons desirous of importing labourers from the South Sea Islands shall make application to the immigration agent at Brisbane, in the Form A. appended hereto, stating the number required, and how they are to be employed; such application to be accompanied by a bond in Form (K.), signed by applicant and two sureties, to secure the return of the labourers to their native islands at the expiration of three years, or 39 moons, from date of arrival. A license in Form (C.) may then be issued, authorising the applicant to import the number required.
- Master of vessel to report arrival, &c.** 2. The master of any vessel arriving with Polynesian labourers shall be bound to report, on arrival at any of the ports of Queensland, the number of such labourers, and the names of the employers to whom they have been, or are to be, indented; and shall not be permitted to land any of the immigrants until he has received the certificate (Form L.) of the immigration agent, or other officer of the Government empowered to grant same, that the following regulations have been complied with:—
- Master of vessel to produce certificate.** (1.) The production by the master of the vessel of a certificate in Form I., or certificates signed by a consul, missionary, or other known person, that the labourers have voluntarily engaged themselves and entered into their agreements with a full knowledge and understanding of the nature and conditions of same, and that when they were embarked they were not known to be afflicted with any disease, and were neither maimed, halt, blind, deaf, dumb, idiotic, or insane.
- Employers to produce certificate of immigration agent.** (2.) The production by the employers or parties to whom the labourers are, or are intended to be, indented, of the certificate in Form (C.) authorising them to recruit.
- Immigrants to understand the nature of their agreements.** (3.) That proper means have been taken, since the arrival of the ship, by the immigration agent or other officer, by explanations, questions, and inquiries amongst the labourers themselves, to ascertain whether they have a proper understanding of the conditions of the agreements, and did voluntarily enter into same. That the agreements have been signed in the form prescribed, and the employers bound to observe the rules laid down for the treatment and management of the labourers.
- Agreements to be completed on board ship where practicable.** 3. All agreements (Form D.) shall be completed on board the ship, if possible, and the immigrants taken from same by their employers; and should there arise a necessity for taking any of the labourers to the immigration depôt, their maintenance there shall, in all cases, be borne by the employer.
- Immigrants to be registered on arrival.** 4. The arrival of the immigrants shall be registered in the immigration office, Brisbane, or at the custom house in any other port; and, in the latter case, a copy of the register shall be forwarded by the customs officer to the immigration office by following mail.
- Scale of rations.** 5. The scale of rations and wages, shown in Form (G.), and printed on the form of agreement, shall in no case be deviated from.
- Register to be kept by employer.** 6. A register of hired Polynesian labourers shall be kept by each employer, in Form E., which shall be open for the inspection of any magistrate, or other person appointed by Government for the purpose, who shall record his visit therein. No entry, except the state of muster at the expiration of each quarter, shall be made in the register of the employer, unless from a document of hiring, transfer, death, or desertion, countersigned by the immigration agent.
- Transfers, how made.** 7. No transfer of an immigrant shall be made except with the full consent of the original employer, the immigrant, and the Government, in Form F., and no immigrant shall be allowed to leave his employment under transfer until the same has been recorded in the books of the immigration office. All transfers shall be signed by employer and immigrant in presence of a magistrate, who shall before signing explain to the latter the full meaning and effect of such transfer; and all monies due to the original employer under the transfer shall be adjusted between him and the transferee by the magistrate, and their signatures to the transfer shall be full acquittance for the same. Provided that every transferee shall enter into a bond similar to that of the transferor prior to any transfer being consented to.
- Deaths or desertions to be reported immediately.** 8. All deaths or desertions shall be immediately reported to the nearest bench of magistrates and to the immigration agent.
- Polynesian labourers not to be supplied with spirituous liquors.** 9. Any person supplying Polynesian labourers with spirits shall be punishable as at present in the case of aborigines, under 47th clause of "Licensed Publicans Act," 13th Vict., number 29.
- Masters of vessels to execute bonds prior to proceeding to hire labourers.** 10. All masters of vessels about to proceed to the South Sea Islands, in order to obtain labourers therefrom, shall enter into a bond, in Form B., with two sufficient sureties, for the prevention of kidnapping, and for the due observance of these regulations so far as they are concerned.

BOND to be entered into by Shipmasters.

Know all men by these presents that _____ of _____ of _____ and _____ of _____ are held and firmly bound unto our Sovereign Lady Victoria by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith in the sum of [five hundred] pounds of good and lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to our said Lady the Queen her heirs and successors to which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves and every of us jointly and severally for and in the whole our heirs executors and administrators and every of them firmly by these presents.

Dated this _____ day of _____
one thousand eight hundred and _____

Whereas by the Polynesian Labourers Act of 1867 and schedule attached thereto it is amongst other things enacted that all masters of vessels proceeding to the South Sea Islands in order to obtain labourers therefrom shall enter into a bond with two sufficient sureties for the prevention of kidnapping and due observance of the requirements of the said recited Act and schedule. Now the condition of this obligation is such that if the above-bounden *J.K.* master of _____ ship about to proceed to the South Sea Islands to procure labourers shall faithfully observe the requirements of the said recited Act and schedule and shall satisfy the Government of Queensland through its officer duly appointed for the purpose that no kidnapping was allowed countenanced or connived at then this obligation to be void otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

and in the presence of

Immigration Agent.

FORM (C.)

LICENSE to recruit Labourers from the South Sea Islands.

This is to certify that [or his agent] is hereby licensed to recruit immigrant labourers from the South Sea Islands for Queensland in conformity with the regulations published regarding such recruiting. This license is to remain in force only until the number mentioned above have been recruited.

Dated this day of 186 .
Immigration Agent Queensland. Colonial Secretary of Queensland.

N.B.—This license is to be returned to the immigration agent when the labourers have been received.

FORM (D.)

186 .

MEMORANDUM of AGREEMENT made this day between
of the first part and
of the second part
per ship
The conditions are that the said party of the second part engages to serve to the said party of the first part as a and otherwise to make generally useful
for the term of calendar months and also to obey all or
overseers or authorised agents lawful and reasonable commands during
that period in consideration of which services the said party of the first part doth hereby agree to pay the said party of the second part wages at the rate of not less than six pounds (6 L.) per annum to provide with the understated rations daily to provide
suitable clothing and proper lodging accommodation and to defray the expense of conveyance

Queensland.

lbs. oz.

Beef or mutton (or 2 lbs. of fish)	-	-	-	-	1	0
Bread or flour	-	-	-	-	1	0
Molasses (or sugar)	-	-	-	-	0	2
Vegetables (or its equivalent in rice, maize meal, &c)	-	-	-	-	2	0
Tobacco, per week (during good behaviour)	-	-	-	-	0	1½
Salt, per week	-	-	-	-	0	2

Yearly.

Shirts (one of flannel or serge)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Trowsers, pairs	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Hat	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blankets	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 pair.

Witness:

186 .

G.H.

G.H.

Immigration Agent.

REGISTER of South Sea Island Labourers employed on the Plantation of _____, in
the _____ District of _____; name of plantation, _____; post town, _____.

[illegible]

J. P.

Queensland.

FORM (F.)

We [name and designation of employer and names and numbers of immigrants engaged] being respectively the master and servants under a contract of service made before the Government Emigration agent at on the day do hereby agree that the whole rights and obligations of the said first party under the said contract shall be and the same are hereby transferred as at the date hereof to [name and designation] who hereby agrees to accept the said transfer and the contract hereby transferred with all its rights and obligations.

X. I. }
A.B. } Signatures or marks of all the parties.
I. }

The above transfer signed by all the parties thereto, its nature and effect having been first fully explained to the immigrants above named all in my presence. The said transfer also approved and concurred in by me as on behalf of the Government.

At this day of 186 .

G. H.
Immigration Agent [or Justice of the Peace].

Registered this day of 186 .

G. H.
Immigration Agent.

FORM (G.)

Scale of Rations.

Daily.						lbs.	ozs.
Beef or mutton (or 2 lbs. of fish)	-	-	-	-	-	1	0
Bread or flour	-	-	-	-	-	1	0
Molasses or sugar	-	-	-	-	-	0	2
Vegetables (or its equivalent in rice, maize meal, &c.)	-	-	-	-	-	2	0
Tobacco, per week (during good behaviour)	-	-	-	-	-	0	1½
Salt, per week	-	-	-	-	-	0	2
Wages.—Not less than six pounds (6 l.) per annum, in the coin of the realm.							

FORM (H.)

Quarterly Return.

RETURN of South Sea Islanders employed on the Plantation of , in the District
of . Name of Plantation ; Post Town ; for Quarter
ending .

No.	Name.	From.	State of Muster on 31st March 1868.	Transfers.	Desertions.	Deaths.	Remarks.

RECAPITULATION.

Number at date of last return - - - - -
Number transferred to plantation during above quarter - - - - -

Deduct:—
Number died during above quarter - - - - -
Number transferred from plantation during above quarter - - - - -

Number remaining on - - - - -

Registered at Immigration Office, Brisbane, on and acknowledged

Proprietor of .
Immigration Agent.

21

Queensland.

In witness whereof we have hereunto attached our signatures this 186 at . day of .

CLOTHING.

[illegible]

	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Bread - - - - -	- 1	0
Beef or mutton (or fish, 2 lbs.) - - - - -	- 1	0
Molasses (or sugar) - - - - -	- 0	2
Vegetables (or its equivalent in rice, maize meal, &c.) - - - - -	- 2	0
Tobacco (during good behaviour) per week - - - - -	- 0	1½
Salt, per week - - - - -	- 0	2

To be furnished to immigration agent or customs' officer with report of arrival.

bounden

Queensland.

bounden *A. B.* shall provide for and pay the cost of the return passage of each and every South Sea Island labourer introduced by him under his application, and also well and truly pay all charges or expenses incurred by the Government of Queensland in connection with the same, then this obligation to be void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the above-bounden *A. B., C. D.,*
and *E. F.* in the presence of [L. s.]

I hereby certify that the above bond was duly signed, sealed, and delivered by the said *A. B., C. D.,* and *E. F.* in my presence, this day
of 18 .

Immigration Agent [or Justice of the Peace].

FORM (L.)

I hereby certify that the master of the arrived from on
the day of 186 has produced to me the necessary certificates (Form I.) that the whole of the labourers on board have voluntarily engaged themselves, &c. &c.

2. I further certify that the licence (Form C.) has been produced in all cases.

3. I also certify that by careful examination of the labourers, I have ascertained that they appear to have a proper understanding of the full meaning and effect of the agreements, and that they voluntarily entered into the same, and that the agreements have been signed in the form prescribed (Form D.).

Dated at this day of 186 .

Immigration Agent [or Officer of Customs].

— No. 5. —

No. 5.

(No. 25.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Acting Governor *O'Connell*, to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Acting Governor
O'Connell, to His
Grace the Duke
of *Buckingham*
and *Chandos*.
23 March 1868.

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland,
23 March 1868.

My Lord Duke,

INASMUCH as the employment of labourers from the Polynesian Islands in the Colony of Queensland has been made the subject of remonstrance by certain well-meaning persons here, who are apprehensive it may in some measure revive the evils which formerly attached to the Slave Trade, and as I had the honour to enclose to your Grace, under cover of my Despatch, No. 12*, of the 27th January, a petition for presentation to Her Majesty in reference to this subject, I deem it better to accompany the copy of the Act "to Regulate the Introduction and Treatment of Polynesian Labourers," which I send under another cover by this mail, with a separate communication having reference only to the general bearing of this measure.

2. I beg, therefore, to inform your Grace that I have signified the Royal Assent to this Bill under the advice of the Attorney-General of the colony, Mr. Pring, given in the following terms in his Report, forwarded through my private secretary:—

"In reply, I have the honour to report that, in consequence of the continued increase and importation of the South Sea Islanders into this colony, it appears to me urgently necessary that this Bill should be brought into immediate operation; and although it may be characterised as a Bill of an extraordinary nature, still as it does not fall within the class of Bills specified in the Royal Instructions for reservation for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure, there is, in my opinion, no objection to his Excellency the Acting Governor giving his assent to this Bill."

3. This

3. This subject, of the employment of Polynesian labourers in Queensland, was first brought under notice in a Despatch (No. 49,* of the 16th September 1863) from Governor Sir George Bowen to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, and it has furnished the matter of several subsequent communications, to the last of which your Grace's Despatch of the 9th November, No. 40,† was a reply.

4. In this latter communication your Grace very justly surmises, that "as the experiment seems to have succeeded with Captain Towns and Captain Whish, the principal employers of these labourers, it is probable that other settlers may desire to follow their example;" for I have now to report that such has been the case.

5. I have obtained from the Collector of Customs in this port a Return, which I enclose, showing the number of vessels entered at the different ports of the colony with Polynesian labourers during the four months ending 29th February 1868, by which it appears that during that time seven vessels, arriving in five different ports of the colony, brought to these shores nine hundred and eighteen (918) of these people; and I can add that some are employed, not only on cotton and sugar plantations, but also on sheep stations.

6. The time, therefore, seems to have fully arrived when it is necessary to provide for their protection and their just treatment by some law more applicable to their particular cases than the ordinary one which provides for the enforcing of engagements between masters and servants would be, if standing alone.

7. The law to which I am now referring seems to me amply to meet the case in point; it establishes in the Government a sort of protectorate over these persons and their engagements; and as far as possible it provides that they shall not be engaged except under precautions which ought to prevent any chance of kidnapping.

8. I perceive, by your Grace's Despatch, No. 1,‡ of the 8th January last, received this day, that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have instructed the senior naval officer on the Australian station to make inquiries, and report whether any person has been improperly transported to the Fiji Islands by British subjects, and I can assure your Grace that the Government of this colony will be prepared to give every assistance and support to such inquiries should any cases of the nature referred to be found to attach to the emigration of Polynesians into Queensland.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. C. O'Connell.*

Enclosure in No. 5.

RETURN of the Number and Tonnage of VESSELS entered at the different PORTS of the COLONY with POLYNESIAN LABOURERS during the Four Months ending 29th February 1868.

PORTS.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Labourers.
Brisbane - - - - -	3	537	523
Maryborough - - - - -	1	99	84
Rockhampton - - - - -	1	177	104
Mackay - - - - -	1	85	78
Bowen - - - - -	1	132	129
TOTAL - - - - -	7	1,030	918

Custom House, Brisbane, }
23 March 1868. }

D. W. Somerset, for Collector.

Queensland.

* Page 1.

† Page 24.

‡ Page 25.

Queensland.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 5.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of *Carnarvon* to Governor Sir
George F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.

No. 1.
Earl of *Carnarvon*
to Sir G. F. Bowen,
G.C.M.G.
1 February 1867.
* Page 4.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 February 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 63,* of the 16th November, respecting the progress of cotton cultivation in Queensland, and enclosing a printed account of the "Townsville" plantation.

A copy of your Despatch has been sent to the Board of Trade as well as to the Cotton Supply Association at Manchester.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Carnarvon*.

— No. 2. —

(No. 40.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham* and *Chandos*
to Governor Sir *George F. Bowen*, G.C.M.G.

No. 2.
His Grace the
Duke of *Buckingham*
and *Chandos*
to Governor Sir G.
F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.
9 November 1867.
† Page 11.

Sir,

Downing-street, 9 November 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 36,† of 13th July, on the subject of the employment in Queensland of the natives of some of the South Sea Islands.

The practical question which arises on your Despatch is, whether any measures beyond those already in force can be taken for the protection of these islanders.

So far as regards the people now in the colony, there seems no reason to doubt that they have been treated kindly and loyally; nor apparently would there be any ground for apprehension if the immigration remain as limited as it is at present. But as the experiment seems to have succeeded with Captain Towns and Captain Whish, the principal employers of these labourers, it is probable that other settlers may desire to follow their example, especially if the cultivation of cotton in Queensland should, as may be expected and hoped, prove remunerative, in which case the adoption of some fixed regulations for the protection of these people may be desirable.

It would not be necessary in the case of the small number of South Sea Islanders likely to be introduced, to establish such detailed and elaborate regulations as those made by the Act of 1862, regulating the introduction of Indian immigrants into Queensland.

But if the Legislature should be willing to entrust the Governor with a power similar to that conferred by the above Act, of making rules for the protection of South Sea Islanders, all that is necessary might be done.

The following are, I think, the principal points to which such rules should be directed:

1. That the ships to be employed in the service should have adequate accommodation, should be properly found, and should not carry above a prescribed number in proportion to their deck area.

2. That

2. That no one should be allowed to introduce these immigrants except under a non-transferable license from the Government.

Queensland.

3. That the general tenour of the contract to be entered into with them should be prescribed by the Government, and that the contracts, to be valid, should be countersigned by the immigration agent on the arrival of the immigrants.

4. That the immigrants should be placed under the special superintendence of the local magistracy; and, as a consequence, that none should be allowed to estates so remote as to be withdrawn from such superintendence.

5. That a power should be reserved to the Government of cancelling a contract in case of the ill usage of the immigrant by his master, or of the non-fulfilment of the conditions of the contract.

6. That the contract should not be for a period exceeding five years; and,

7. That security should be taken for the reconveyance of the immigrant to his own country at the time stipulated in the contract, and for the grant to him of fair compensation for any unreasonable delay in fulfilling that condition.

A regulation might also be added to provide for the re-engagement of an immigrant who may not wish to return to his country at the end of his five years' contract. In this case the liability to provide for a back passage would rest with the new employer, the first employer paying the immigrant some compensation in lieu of passage.

I shall be glad to learn what course your Government may propose to pursue in the matter.

I have informed the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty of the steps taken in consequence of Captain Luce's statement regarding the abduction of the South Sea Islanders to Queensland, and have left it to their Lordships to take such measures as would seem to them practicable and expedient, in order to ascertain whether any persons had been improperly transported to the Fiji Islands by English subjects.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 1.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham* and *Chandos* to Officer Administering the Government.

Sir,

Downing-street, 8 January 1868.

WITH reference to the last paragraph of my Despatch to Sir George Bowen, No. 40,* of 9th November, on the subject of the proposed introduction of South Sea Islanders into Queensland, I have to acquaint you that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have stated their intention to instruct the Officer on the Australian Station to make enquiries and report whether any person has been improperly transported to the Fiji Islands by British subjects.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

No. 3.

His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham* and *Chandos* to Officer Administering the Government.

8 Jan. 1868.

* Page 24.

NEW SOUTH WALES,

Despatches from the Governor.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.

(No. 22.)

Governor the Right
Hon. Sir J. Young
to the Right Hon.
the Earl of Car-
narvon.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor the Right Honourable Sir *John Young*,
Bart., to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Carnarvon*.

Government House, Sydney,
12 March 1867.

12 March 1867.

My Lord,

(Answered, No. 59, 3 December 1867, page 31.)

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of two communications from
Mr. J. Havinden, Master of the schooner "Challenge," reporting the murder of
the white crew of the brig "Curlew" by the natives of Hinchinbroke Island,
and also the murder of "three white men by the natives of the Sandwich Island,
one of the New Hebrides."

2. I forwarded copies of these letters to Commodore Maguire, under cover of
my communication to him of yesterday's date, of which I also send a copy for
your Lordship's information.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Young*.

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Communicate this information to Messrs. Towns & Co., the
supposed shipowners. I think the case is one in respect of
which his Excellency may consider it necessary to request the
aid of the Naval authorities here.

5 March 1867.

(signed) *James Martin*,
Attorney General and Premier.

To the Honourable
Colonial Secretary.

Schooner "Challenge," New Caledonia,
16 January 1867.

Sir,
I BEG to report that I have been informed by natives
of the Sandwich Island that the brig "Curlew," of Syd-
ney, had been taken by natives of Hinchinbroke Island;
captain and the white crew murdered; ship burnt.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *J. Havinden*,
Master.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

Schooner, "Challenge," New Caledonia,
16 January 1867.

Sir,

I BEG to report the murder of three white men by the natives of the Sandwich Island,
one of the New Hebrides, Saturday, 24th November, trading in the Havannah Harbour,
Sandwich Island. I was informed by the natives that the schooner "Mary Jane," had been
brought into the South Harbour by the natives, and that Edward Unthank, John Perry,
and Harry Collins had been murdered by the natives of the Island of Tanna. I returned
on board immediately and got under way, and proceeded to the South Harbour, having a
light head wind. I did not reach until after sunset, but could see a small schooner at
anchor inside the reef, close to a small island; at 8 p.m. anchored as close to the island as
I could with safety. A native came on board and said he was one of the schooner
crew, and confirmed the report; at 4 a.m., Sunday, 25th November, manned and armed
the boat, and pulled in for the schooner, and getting alongside found the natives had left
her, and taken sails, spars, ropes, and all the stores on shore. I took possession of her,
and placed Mr. Riddle, my chief officer, on board; I then landed and sent for the chief;
he came; I made him understand that all the spars, sails, ropes, and stores he had taken
from the schooner should be put on board; he ordered the natives to bring the things;
such I demanded, the chronometer, and a breech-loading rifle which I had seen on board;
those

those were handed to me with all the ship's papers. I then engaged ten natives of another tribe to assist in towing the schooner to harbour. At 8 p.m. got her alongside the "Challenge;" Monday, 26th November, repaired the sails, and lent some from the "Challenge." At 2 p.m. weighed, and worked out of the harbour in company. I ordered Mr. Riddle to the port of Pueba, myself being bound for Bylow, New Caledonia. The "Mary Jane" arrived at Pueba, 3rd December, all well; I have left her in charge with Mr. Henry, with all stores and chronometer. The "Mary Jane" is a small fore and aft schooner of 16 tons, and cleared at Sydney the middle of September 1866, and was the property of Unthank and Perry. Since writing the above I have been on Sandwich, and the natives say it is false about the white men being killed on Tanna, as they were killed on board the schooner; Unthank was killed below, asleep; Perry was killed at the helm, and Harry Collins was made to take the schooner to Sandwich, and when in sight of the island was murdered and thrown overboard. I have every reason to believe the above, as two of my crew belonging to the same island left me on Sandwich, being afraid I should make them fast; they had been with me eight months on board the "Sylvanus" and "Challenge."

To the Honourable Colonial Secretary.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *J. Havinden,*
Master.

Enclosure 3, in No. 1.

Government House, Sydney,
11 March 1867.

Encl. 3, in No. 1.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of two communications which have been received by the Colonial Secretary from Mr. J. Havinden, master of the schooner "Challenge."

2. You will perceive that Mr. Havinden reports that the natives of Hinchinbroke Island seized the brig "Curlew," murdered the white crew, and burnt the ship. In his other letter he reports the murder of "three white men by the natives of the Sandwich Island, one of the New Hebrides."

3. I forward these communications for your information as they were sent to me, leaving it to you to test their accuracy, and to take such further steps as you may think requisite.

4. The firm of Messrs. Towns and Co., named in the Attorney General's Minute, is highly respectable, and in the first rank of shipowners in this city.

Commodore Rochford Maguire, C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.
H.M.S. "Challenger."

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Young.*

— No. 2. —

(No. 26.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Earl of *Belmore* to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham* and *Chandos*.

Government House, Sydney,
29 February 1868.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith for your information, a copy of a Petition which I have received from eight Christian Missionaries, representing the Presbyterian Church in the New Hebrides, accompanied by a statement of facts with regard to the practice now being pursued of engaging natives of these islands for Queensland and other places, and praying that I would take steps to cause an investigation to be made into what they believe to be a revival of the slave trade.

2. On receipt of these documents, I at once wrote to Commodore Lambert, and herewith enclosed is a copy of that officer's reply, from which you will perceive that before proceeding to the Islands, he will communicate further with me.

3. Subsequently I brought the whole of these documents under the notice of my Responsible Advisers, and herewith enclosed is a copy of their opinion on the subject.

4. All has thus been done by me that could be done under the circumstances.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Belmore.*

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 2.
Governor the Earl of Belmore to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

29 Feb. 1868.

Enclosure No. 1.

Enclosure No. 2.

Enclosure No. 3.

Enclosure No. 4.

Enclosure No. 5.

Enclosure No. 6.

New South Wales.

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Encl. 1, in No. 2. To His Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of *Belmore*, &c. &c., Governor in Chief of New South Wales, and Captain General and Vice Admiral of the same.

May it please your Excellency,

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth,

THAT your petitioners are Christian Missionaries representing Presbyterian churches labouring on the six southern islands of the New Hebrides group, namely, Aneityum, Futuna, Tanna, Aniwa, Eromanga, and Faté.

That in their capacity as such, they, of course, are deeply interested in the elevation of the natives of these islands physically and socially, as well as morally and spiritually, so that while on the one hand any plan which has a tendency to promote so desirable an object, has not only their perfect acquiescence, but their hearty support; on the other, they cannot but regard it as their duty to oppose any system which is found to interfere with the natural rights of the natives, and with the furtherance of those ends for which missionaries settle among them.

That in fulfilment of their duty, and in the interests of humanity, they feel themselves bound to lay before your Excellency certain facts and allegations, as embodied in the accompanying "statement," relating to a system of traffic in human beings, as at present carried on among these islands.

That your petitioners humbly and earnestly request your Excellency that an investigation be made into the working of this traffic; that it be put under such supervision and control as shall prevent the rights of the natives, as human beings, from being ruthlessly violated; and that some one be appointed to care for the interests, and investigate the grievances, of those natives of these islands, who reside in the Colony of which you are the head.

And your petitioners will ever pray,

(signed) *John Geddie, D.D.*
John Inglis.
John G. Paton.
Joseph Copeland.
Donald Morrison.
J. D. Gordon.
James Cosh, M.A.
Thomas Neilson.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

Encl. 2, in No. 2. STATEMENT by the New Hebrides Mission regarding the Traffic in Natives, as at present conducted among the Islands of that Group.

FOR some time back, and more especially within the last few years, this Mission has had its attention directed to the fact, that a large number of the natives of this group are being carried away in vessels, ostensibly as hired labourers, to Queensland, Fiji, New Caledonia, Tahiti, Torres Straits, and other parts. With reference to the full extent to which this system is carried on, this Mission is not at present in a position to furnish accurate statistics, but we are fully aware that a large number of vessels are engaged in it. Within the course of the last 18 months, vessels directly or indirectly engaged in this traffic have called at the one island of Faté no fewer than 18 times, and we are aware that as many as 250 natives at least, out of seven villages of that island, are at present absent from their homes engaged in the service of white men. We are further credibly informed that several of the smaller islands in the northern part of this group have been almost entirely stripped of their male population.

The vessels engaged in this traffic, so far as known to us, sail under one or other of three flags: the British, the American, and the French. They vary in size from ships of seven or eight hundred tons to small schooners of eight or ten tons.

There are various circumstances connected with this system as at present conducted among the islands of this group, to which we deem it our duty to direct public attention.

1st. Many of these natives are taken away fraudulently and by force from their native lands.

Instance.—Towards the close of last year a vessel sailing under the British flag, bound for the Fijis, having on board 110 natives from northern islands of this group, lay off Fil Harbour, Faté. Some of the natives of Pango put off to her in a canoe. They were able to converse with the natives on board, as some of them had resided on the islands whence they came. As they neared the vessel some of the natives on board warned them not to leave their canoe, adding, "We came off to her in our canoe to trade as she lay to off our shores."

shores. While we were thus engaged she bore away, and when we attempted to leave, the crew prevented us, and cut our canoes adrift. Thus they stole us from our land, and if you board her, you will share the same fate. Nor does she come to anchor anywhere lest we escape by swimming ashore."

New South Wales.

Other instances of the same kind can be given.

2nd. Many of these natives suffer great hardships and privations on the voyage.

Instance.—In the beginning of this year (1867) a small schooner bound for the Fijis, having on board 35 natives from different islands of this group, came to anchor in the harbour of Aneityum. She then started on her voyage, and after having been out a fortnight, returned, reporting that she had met with unfortunate weather, and that her provisions were exhausted. In fact, the captain acknowledged that a number of the natives were reduced by famine, that they could not come out of the hold; and this statement was fully borne out by their wretched appearance.

Other instances of the same kind can be given.

3rd. Some of these natives suffer severe bodily injury, and even death, at the hands of those who carry them away, without any redress or any inquiry being made after their blood. This naturally leads to their cherishing feelings of revenge, and taking opportunities of retaliation against white men generally.

Instance.—Towards the close of last year (1866) the people of Emel (Faté) pirated a small vessel and murdered the crew, consisting of three white men. When visited this year by Her Majesty's ship "Falcon" for the purpose of investigating this outrage, they stated, in self-defence, that no fewer than four of their men had been barbarously murdered by persons who had carried them away from their native island, giving names, dates, and circumstances.

Other instances of a similar kind can be given.

4th. In the case of those who go of their own accord, the nature of the agreements entered into with them is very imperfectly, and, in most cases, not at all understood by them; and there is no real security that we know of that these agreements will be faithfully fulfilled by those who carry them away.

This has been acknowledged by those who carry them away, and has been stated to us by persons in the Fijis who have access to natives imported there. It ought to be borne in mind that almost every island in Western Polynesia has a distinct language of its own. The only medium of communication between the natives and the traders is the English language, and this is understood only by a few, and by them very imperfectly. On most islands it is not understood at all.

5th. Most of these natives, as is well known to us, are kept away from their native islands for longer periods than they were engaged for.

This statement is fully borne out by individual instances which have come under our own observation, and by the fact that it is the universal complaint of the natives whenever we come in contact with them. One case of many we may mention:

In August 1866, a small schooner of about 10 tons burden, took 26 natives from the islands of Emon and Faté to Fiji, for a term of six months. Up to this date (August 1867) not one of those taken from Faté at least has been returned.

6th. Many of these natives are very poorly paid.

Instance.—For five months' service on board a vessel trading in these seas a native of Faté received four handkerchiefs, a few pipes, and a few figs of tobacco.

Other instances of a similar kind can be given.

7th. The wives of many of those carried away, despairing of their husbands' return, enter into relations with and become the wives of other men. This dissolution of social ties is a fruitful source of disturbance, of destruction of property, and of war.

Instance.—In July of this year (1867) a native of Pango, in the Island of Faté, returned from Queensland. He had been away for about three years. During his absence, the wife he had left behind him became the wife of another man, on account of which the village had at the time been brought to the verge of a civil war. Immediately after his arrival in July last, hostilities began between the two parts of the village inhabited by the friends of the respective parties. A great deal of angry talk passed between them; threats were made of setting houses on fire. Several plantations were destroyed, and the utmost confusion and alarm prevailed for some days, when at length the matter was settled by the first husband consenting to give up his claim to the woman on condition of receiving 20 pigs as a solution. But the matter did not end there. A month or so after these occurrences, the woman whose second marriage had been the occasion of these disturbances, fled to the house of her former husband, and was received by him as his wife. This naturally led to the renewal of hostilities between the two ends of the village. And there is every reason to believe that, but for the presence of the Missionary and the intercession of the Christian party, the matter would not have been settled without bloodshed.

Other instances of a similar kind can be given.

8th. In almost all cases the men taken away are the strongest and most active in their villages, and by the removal of such men a more than ordinary proportion of old and

New South Wales. infirm people, with women and children, remain, which materially interferes with the raising of food, the procuring of fish, and other work necessary to the well-being of the natives.

9th. With reference to those who return, we find that those who have been most often and longest away are generally the worst and most dangerous characters.

10th. The whole system is, so far as we know, under no adequate supervision or control, so that the natives of these islands are at the mercy of any man who can induce, or cajole, or force them to take a passage on board his vessel.

In these circumstances we have no hesitation in denouncing the trade in human beings, as at present carried on among these islands, as in violation of the natural rights of man, as calculated to be injurious to the social, moral, and spiritual interests of the natives, as demoralising and degrading to the white men engaged in it, as in short a revival of the slave trade, without that security for the temporal well-being of those who are the subjects of it, which would be derived from the fact of their being the property of a man who had invested a large sum of money in their purchase.

Signed, on behalf of the New Hebrides Mission, by

Aneityum, New Hebrides,
7 September 1867.

J. G. Paton, Chairman.
Jos. Copeland, Clerk.

Enclosure 3, in No. 2.

Encl. 3, in No. 2.

Government House, Sydney,
17 February 1868.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith a petition which I have received from Christian missionaries representing the Presbyterian Church, labouring on certain islands in the New Hebrides, as well as a statement regarding the system, as at present conducted, of so-called engagement of natives of the islands as labourers for Queensland and other places.

These gentlemen, understanding that it is your intention shortly to visit Queensland, have expressed a desire that I would bring the matter under your notice. I accordingly forward the documents in question, in order that you may take such steps as you may think requisite.

Commodore Rowley Lambert, C.B.,
H.M.S. "Challenger."

I have, &c.
(signed) Belmore.

Enclosure 4, in No. 2.

Encl. 4, in No. 2.

Her Majesty's Ship "Challenger," at Sydney,
21 February 1868.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 17th instant, and to return the enclosures as requested.

Before proceeding to the islands I shall communicate further with your Lordship on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) Rowley Lambert,
Commodore and Senior Officer.

To his Excellency
the Right Hon. the Earl of Belmore,
&c. &c.

Enclosure 5, in No. 2.

Encl. 5, in No. 2.

MEMORANDUM of his Excellency the Earl of Belmore.

Memorandum.

24 February 1868.

I WISH to draw the attention of my Responsible Advisers to the accompanying papers relating to the engagement of natives of islands in the New Hebrides as labourers in Queensland and other places.

These documents were submitted to me by the Rev. Dr. Steel, on behalf of a deputation consisting of two missionaries and himself, which was to have waited on me, but which was ultimately reduced to himself.

He requested me to draw the attention of Commodore Lambert to them, as that officer was about to proceed to Queensland; I have done so, and am in hopes that on his return he will be able, from inquiries which he may make there, to afford me fuller information with regard to the matter.

On

On the 17th Dr. Steel addressed the letter to me which I append herewith, and enclosed a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State to Governor Sir George Bowen, as published in a Sydney paper, from which I learn that this matter has attracted the attention of the Home Government. In fact, I am sure it will be a subject which will be viewed in a serious light by the Imperial Parliament.

As far as my information goes, none of these islanders are actually employed in this Colony, although they are by residents in this Colony owning estates in Queensland.

But I gather that ships sailing from Sydney are engaged in this business, which circumstance, I think, gives the Government of New South Wales a *locus standi* in the matter.

I therefore submit these papers to my Responsible Advisers, with the object of ascertaining their views as to the desirability or necessity of legislation or interference in the matter, and to what extent I find that an impression prevails in some quarters that the murder of the crew of the "Marion Renny," concerning which the Colonial Secretary has recently been in communication with me, is to a great extent connected with this traffic in South Sea Island labourers. At the same time there is nothing on the face of these documents to show this.

I intend to forward a copy of this petition and statement to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos by the next mail.

I shall therefore be very glad if Ministers are in a position to give me their views by Saturday morning.

I have to request that the papers may be returned to me.

(signed) *Belmore.*

Enclosure 6, in No. 2.

OPINION OF RESPONSIBLE ADVISERS.

Encl. 6, in No. 2.

His Excellency,

THESE papers have been submitted for the opinion of the Attorney General, and have, by Mr. Martin, been brought under the consideration of the Cabinet.

The papers do not appear to Ministers to present any case in which the Legislature of this Colony could be asked to interfere.

29 February 1868.

(signed) *Henry Parkes,*
Colonial Secretary.

Despatch from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 59.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to the Officer administering the Government of *New South Wales*.

No. 1.

His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to the Officer Administering the Government of *New South Wales*.

3 Dec. 1867.

* 26 Nov. 1867, page 32.

Sir,

Downing-street, 3 December 1867.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from the Board of Admiralty* on the subject of a charge of 18*l.* 12*s.* made for the messing of Mr. Edward Rodd, late master of the brig "Curlew," who proceeded on board Her Majesty's ship "Falcon" for the purpose of assisting in the investigation of the circumstances attending the murder of the crew of the "Curlew" by the natives of Hinchin-broke Island.

I request that you will bring this claim before your Responsible Advisers.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and
Admiralty.

Correspondence between the Colonial Office and Admiralty.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Lord H. Lennox
to the Under
Secretary of State.
26 Nov. 1867.

COPY of a LETTER from Lord *Henry Lennox* to the Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

Sir,

Admiralty, 26 November 1867.

A CLAIM having been sent in from Her Majesty's ship "Falcon" for messing Mr. Edward Rodd, late master of the brig "Curlew," who was on board the "Falcon" for the purpose of assisting in investigating the circumstances under which the crew of the "Curlew" were murdered, and the ship burnt by the natives of Hinchinbroke Island, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will move his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to cause my Lords to be informed whether the charge of eighteen pounds twelve shillings (18 *l.* 12 *s.*), as shown on the other side,* should not be defrayed out of Colonial funds, and if so, that the amount may be transferred to the credit of naval funds in the hands of Her Majesty's Paymaster General.

* See below.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Henry G. Lennox.*

Mr. Edward Rodd—25th April, 26th August 1867, 124 days, at 3 *s.* a day, 18 *l.* 12 *s.*
Messd with the gunner of the "Falcon."

— No. 2. —

No. 2.
Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Secretary to the
Admiralty.
6 Dec. 1867.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Secretary
to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Downing-street, 8 December 1867.

I HAVE laid before the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos Lord Henry Lennox's letter of the 26th ultimo on the subject of the charge of 18 *l.* 12 *s.*, made for the messing of Mr. Edward Rodd, late master of the brig "Curlew," who proceeded on board Her Majesty's Ship "Falcon," for the purpose of assisting in the investigation of the circumstances under which the crew of the "Curlew" were murdered by the natives of Hinchinbroke Island.

I am desired to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Governor of New South Wales has been requested to bring the claim before his Responsible Advisers.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Secretary to the
Admiralty.
15 Nov. 1867.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Secretary
to the Admiralty.

SIR,

Downing-street, 15 November 1867.

* No. 36, 13 July
1867, page 11.

A DESPATCH* was recently received from the Governor of Queensland on the subject of the treatment of natives of the South Sea Islands who are employed as labourers in that Colony. In this Despatch the Governor reported that he had received a letter from Captain Luce, R.N., of Her Majesty's ship "Esk," from which it appeared that the outrages committed by the Islanders on Europeans were perpetrated in revenge for the loss of some of their countrymen who had been carried off to Queensland and the Fiji Islands by Europeans. The Governor's
Despatch

Despatch was sent to the Emigration Commissioners, with instructions to report what measures could be adopted for the protection of these islanders beyond those already in force. I am desired to annex, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of the Commissioner's Report, suggesting that an Act should be passed authorising the Governor to make certain rules for regulating the introduction of these people into the Colony. These measures will be recommended for the adoption of the Government of Queensland.

It appears to his Grace to rest with their Lordships to take such steps as may seem to them practicable and expedient, in order to ascertain whether any persons had been improperly transported to the Fiji Islands by English subjects.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and
Admiralty.

24 October 1867,
page 40.

— No. 4. —

COPY of a LETTER from *W. G. Romaine, C.B.*, to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 4.
W. G. Romaine, C.B., to the Under
Secretary of State
for the Colonies.
7 Dec. 1867.

Sir,

Admiralty, 7 December 1867.

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 15th November, and its enclosures, on the subject of the introduction of natives of the South Sea Islands into the Colony of Queensland to be employed as labourers in the cotton plantations there. My Lords desire me to refer you to the correspondence which took place between the Colonial Office and this Department in 1863, relative to the kidnapping of Polynesians to be employed on cotton plantations and other agricultural operations in Peru, and I now enclose, for the information of his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, letters of 1863 from the Naval Commander in Chief on the Pacific Station on the same subject, and a copy of a letter, dated the 31st August last, No. 15, from Commodore Lambert, with its enclosure, from the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Falcon," reporting his proceedings at the New Hebrides, and the outrages committed towards the crews of British merchant vessels by the inhabitants, in consequence of some of their fellow countrymen having been kidnapped and ill-treated.

From the perusal of these papers his Grace will perceive how rapidly the trade of procuring labourers degenerated into slave hunting and slave trading. The collection of these savages brought on a system of kidnapping and piracy; and this in turn led, by a natural process, to the murder of innocent white men visiting the islands for the purposes of lawful trade.

My Lords believe, from the reports of their officers, that these islanders are incapable of understanding the nature of a written contract with an employer, or that any of them would knowingly and willingly engage themselves to work far from their own country at all, or at any place, even near their own home, for more than a few months.

My Lords are also strongly impressed with the belief, that whatever regulations may be made for the well-being and liberty of these people on their being brought nominally within reach of the laws and tribunals of Queensland, yet that no proper and efficient control can ever be exercised over the manner in which these people are obtained and placed on board ship. The task of their collection and shipment is, from the nature of the work, likely to fall into the hands of an unscrupulous and mercenary set, who, under pretence of persuading the natives into making engagements as labourers for a term of years, would not hesitate to commit acts of kidnapping, piracy, and murder.

It may be added, that of the wretched islanders imported into Peru nearly all perished from the nature of the work, and the change of living and climate. The Government of Peru was compelled, by the strong remonstrances of England and France, to put a summary end to the traffic.

Entertaining these views, my Lords are unable to concur in any recommendation with regard to framing an Act of the Colonial Legislature for the regulation of the introduction of these people into the Colony.

In compliance with his Grace's wishes, my Lords will send out orders to the
o.go. E senior

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and
Admiralty.

senior officer on the Australian station to make inquiries, and report whether any person has been improperly transported to the Fiji Islands by British subjects.

I am, &c.
(signed) *W. G. Romaine.*

P. S. I am to request that the original enclosures to this letter may be returned when done with.

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

Encl. 1, in No. 4. REPORTING proceedings relative to inquiries into "Curlew," "Mary Ida," and "Kate."

Her Majesty's Ship "Falcon," at Sea, Lat. 19.40, S.,
Lon. 167.37 E., 4 August 1867.

Sir,

IN accordance with the directions received from Captain J. P. Luce, I have the honour to report the results of my inquiries respecting the capture and destruction of the "Curlew" brig, also the "Mary Ida" and "Kate" schooners, all the property of British subjects, by the natives of the New Hebrides.

From communicating with the Missionary at Anietyum I first proceeded to the island of Tanna, and there learnt from a person named Daley, who was a passenger on board the "Curlew," that the chief mate, John Hellier, had, during the captain's absence, deliberately run away with the vessel from Anietyum, and that after landing him with several natives, passengers, at Port Resolution, she disappeared; the crew (with the exception of three Maré men), all natives of Hinchinbroke, had slipped the cable and taken her out during the night, having first murdered the chief mate and the only other white, a boy named John Cruikshank. There were one or two others, namely, a black cook and a Lascar; it is supposed they were murdered also, and that the Maré men were then compelled to pilot the vessel to Hinchinbroke, where she was run ashore, pillaged, and burnt. The Maré men, hearing afterwards they were to be murdered, took a boat and escaped to Sandwich, where they eventually obtained a passage to their own country.

2. On leaving Tanna I went to Vilu Harbour in the Island of Sandwich, for the purpose of communicating with the Missionaries there respecting the cases of the "Mary Ida," and "Kate" schooners. I was informed that the "Mary Ida," a small schooner in charge of her owners, Messrs. Unthank and Percy, with a man named Collins, who acted as navigator, came to Emel Island, on the north side of Vilu Bay, with the object, it would appear, of obtaining natives; and that soon after she left with 10 from that island, intending to go first to Tanna on her way to New Caledonia. Just before reaching the former, these natives murdered the owners, and Collins was compelled to take the vessel back: when within sight of their island he was also murdered, and his body thrown overboard. Captain Havinden, in the schooner "Challenge," lying in Havanah Harbour, hearing of the circumstance, brought his vessel round to Emel Island, where he found the schooner "Mary Ida," the natives having stripped and plundered her of nearly everything. He succeeded in getting possession of the vessel, and recovering most of the property, which he sent to Pucbo, New Caledonia, in charge of his chief mate, as strong suspicion existed that the natives had been instigated to this atrocity by their chief, who, excited, it was supposed, by feelings of cupidity, had selected from among his tribe those who would carry out his object.

A boat was sent, manned by natives from Vilu, with a message that I wished to see him, promising him safety if he came: he at first refused, sending in his stead some inferior chiefs who were not concerned, but seeing the ship on her way to Emel Island, he put off in his canoe and came on board.

When questioned with regard to the part he had taken in the affair, he did not seem to disavow his complicity, but gave the following reasons, which I append. It will be perceived that the grievances here enumerated have been spread over a number of years, and although the cause for the perpetration of the unlawful act cannot be divested entirely of the desire for plunder, I am of opinion that due credence should be given to those statements, which are felt as injuries in the native mind, and which may have incited them to this mode of resentment.

3. With respect to the "Kate," the case probably referred to in the postscript of my orders, she was another small schooner, owned by Mr. M. Russell, living at Seonka, Fiji, the substance of whose deposition is to the effect that, in the month of August 1866, he sailed in his vessel from Seonka on a trading voyage to one of the adjacent islands, with a crew of half-castes and an European boy named Walter Hooker, a native of Auckland, New Zealand, with two passengers, named respectively John or James King and John Johnson, the latter having his wife with him. That while at anchor in the harbour of Wariki Taviuni, his crew at the time being on shore, Johnson, King, and the boy, together with Pisano, a native of Singapore, came on board, took forcible possession

of

of his vessel, and, after severely maltreating him, went first to the island of Koro, where they threw him overboard on to the reefs with his hands tied, and then sailed away, the vessel not again appearing.

I learnt from the same missionaries, who considered their information reliable, though derived through a native source, that a small vessel, corresponding to the "Kate," having three white men and a woman on board, was seen one morning in shore on the reef, the north-west side of Hinchinbroke; that the natives came down and murdered first two of the white men that came to land in the boat, then went off and murdered the remainder; the vessel being sent adrift. It was also reported they had been eaten.

4. Having obtained a native interpreter at Havannah harbour, I then proceeded to the island of Hinchinbroke, with a view to communicate with the chiefs, and ascertain as far as possible from them the truth of the statements I had received, and if there were any grievances they could bring forward in justification of the complaints against them.

I arrived off there on the afternoon of the 1st instant. While steaming along the west coast, saw the remains of the "Curlew" brig lying on a reef off the south-east end of the island, with her masts gone and topsides burnt to the water's edge. I selected an anchorage as close to the reef as possible; up to that time no natives had shown themselves, but immediately on anchoring they suddenly appeared in great numbers, all armed, brandishing their spears and tomahawks; one might be seen more conspicuous than the rest who came down to the water's edge, holding up a sugar-cane reed, as if wishing to communicate. A boat was first sent in with the native interpreter and one of their own chiefs, whom I had brought down from Fiji, to desire the chief to come on board, promising him safety if he came; on her approach, the natives drew down in greater numbers, leveling their spears and poisoned arrows, giving unmistakable evidence of hostile intentions should the boat attempt to land. They moreover invited them to come on, threatening to take the boat, saying they did not care for a man-of-war, at the same time gesticulating and yelling at the ship in a manner that savages only are capable of.

The result of the first attempt at communication was that the chief represented by the reed refused to come on board; and to show more clearly his determination, he struck off the head of the reed with his tomahawk, which, according to native custom, is a signification of a declaration of war. I waited till next morning, and sent a boat in again, still hoping for a peaceful solution; but they only repeated this hostile demonstration, their tone, if anything, being more defiant.

Finding my endeavours to effect friendly communication resented by determined threats and menaces, I judged that any further temperate dealing by a ship of war, whose visit they were now experiencing for the first time, would be construed by these natives into fear and dread of them, and therefore be likely to encourage them to continue their acts of violence, more particularly as I was informed while at Vilu of the avowed intention of the natives, if they were not punished, to do so. Under the circumstances, I deemed it the wisest course of action that would have the appearance of exacting reparation for their savage conduct, of which it was afterwards proved there was not the slightest doubt, and at the same time impress them with the power of a ship of war, when she comes to enforce retributive justice for the same. As delay might also be construed in allowing their acts to pass unnoticed, and prove dangerous to the safety of other vessels, which any active measures at the present time might be the means of preventing, we landed and destroyed the villages and canoes where evidence of their guilt could be found, having first driven them out of the strong position where they lay concealed in great numbers to await our attack. The fact of this punishment having fallen upon those justly deserving it will, I trust, have a salutary effect, not only with the natives of Hinchinbroke but throughout the whole islands. And I may state that upon my return to Vilu to communicate again with the missionaries, it was my gratification to hear that the guilty chief of Emel Island had in the meantime gone over to them with all his chiefs, and in a formal manner thanked them for having saved their lives and property, promising to discontinue their piratical and murderous practices. I have therefore but to express a hope that the visit of Her Majesty's ship under my command will afterwards be shown to have been productive of good results, and that my endeavours to fulfil my instructions to the best of my ability may meet your approval.

In conclusion, I beg to report respecting the statements made by Captain Havinden, in the "Challenge," referred to in my orders, that the natives of Hinchinbroke were instigated to commit these murders in revenge for the non-restoration of natives who have been taken to Fiji, that I was unable to ascertain if there was any truth in them; but upon inquiry of the missionaries of Sandwich they were not aware that complaints of the kind existed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. H. Blake.*

Commodore R. Lambert, C.B.

P. S.—The money taken out of the "Mary Ida" schooner, to the value of 18*l* 7*s*. 9½*d.*, recovered from the chiefs of Emel Island, is retained for the purpose of being delivered over to the agents of Messrs. Unthank & Percy, at Sydney.

(signed) *W. H. B.*

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and
Admiralty.

DEPOSITION made by *Monargonon*, Chief of Emel Island, on Board Her Majesty's Ship "Falcon," on the 29th July 1867.

ON being asked "whether he was aware of the occasion of the man of war's visit?" replied, by commencing to excuse his action in the affair of the murder of the crew of the "Mary Ida," giving the following reasons for the part he took, viz.:

1st. "That several of his tribe, particularising five natives, were taken away to different parts and died from the effects of being beaten, naming in particular Captain Edwards of the 'Woodlark,' Captain Vincent of the 'Blue Bell,' and the Malay Rangie; and that his half-brother Tamalsa was 'beaten to death by Captain Vincent;' he further stated, the same captain, with a club, broke both his (Tamalsa's) arms, and that when he died he was buried in a small island off the coast of New Caledonia, and that there were at the time men of Emel on board who witnessed the act."

This case occurred five years ago.

2nd. "A boy named Kalumback, with other Emel lads, went in the 'Blue Bell' beche-de-mer fishing. One day, when the surf was breaking heavily, the captain wanted to send the boat to fish, and Kalumback declined to go, as it was dangerous, whereupon the captain beat him to death, and his body was thrown into the sea. The boat was capsized on being sent away afterwards, and the natives were with difficulty rescued."

This case occurred four years ago.

3rd. "A case which happened with Captain Vincent in the 'Lion,' when there were natives on board from the village of Akaron and Island of Emel. One of the men belonging to the latter place died, and although they did not know that he had been ill-treated, they were very sore-hearted at his loss."

This occurred two years ago.

4th. "An instance where a lad from Emel Island was away in the 'Woodlark,' captain's name unknown; one day, in a gale of wind, whilst he was on deck attending the ropes, the remainder of the natives being at the time abaft handling the sails, a block fell upon the boy's instep, crushing it, and that after lingering awhile, he died on board."

This case occurred four years ago.

5th. "A case against Captain Lewin of the 'Uncle Tom,' of Morton Bay, who, when ashore at Gogan, Queensland, became exasperated against one of the natives of Emel Island, and took up a stick, with which he hit him in the small of the back. The man was seized with spasms, and died in two days' time."

This took place five years ago.

The following questions were then put:

Question. Did you plunder the vessel?—Answer. Yes, the vessel was plundered.

Q. What was done with the plunder?—A. It was delivered up, together with the hulk of the vessel, to the "Challenge," Captain Havinden.

Q. What was done with the money?—A. It is on shore. Money to the value of 18*l.* 9*s.* 7½*d.* sterling was then produced.

Q. How many men did you send away in the "Mary Ida," and where are they now?—A. There were 10 Emel men on board; the murder was planned by a native of Hinchinbroke.

Q. Are the 10 Emel men here now?—A. Six only; the remaining four are shipped away in trading vessels, the names of which I do not know.

(signed) *W. H. Blake*, Commander.

Witness,

Henry M. Jones,

Her Majesty's Consul for the Fiji and Tonga Islands.

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

Encl. 2, in No. 4.

(No. 15.)

"Falcon:"—Report relative to cases of the brig "Curlew," and schooners "Mary Ida" and "Kate."

"Challenger," at Sydney,

Sir,

31 August 1867.

I BEG to enclose herewith, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a Report from Commander Blake, of Her Majesty's ship "Falcon," in compliance with orders received from Captain Luce, Her Majesty's ship "Esk," acting senior officer, relative to the capture and destruction of the brig "Curlew" and the schooners "Mary Ida" and "Kate," all the property of British subjects, by the natives of the New Hebrides,

Hebrides, also reporting having, at Hinchinbroke Island, landed a party from the "Falcon," and destroyed the villages and canoes, where evidence of the guilt of the natives could be discovered.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and
Admiralty.

I am, &c.
(signed) *R. Lambert,*
Commodore, &c. Commander in Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

— No. 5. —

COPY of a LETTER from *W. G. Romaine*, c.b., to the Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

No. 5.

W. G. Romaine,
c.b., to the Under
Secretary of State.
21 March 1868.

Sir,

Admiralty, 21 March 1868.

WITH reference to the letter from this Department, dated the 7th December last,* on the subject of the kidnapping of natives from the South Sea Islands by vessels under the Chilian and Peruvian flags, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that, looking to the representations formerly made by this country and France, as to the importation of South Sea Islanders into Chili and Peru, and to the representations made by this country as to the importation of negroes from the West Coast of Africa to the West Indies, and looking also to the probability that representation will be made by France on the deportation of South Sea Islanders to serve as labourers in Queensland, their Lordships would suggest that before the Colonial Office decides upon the question of Colonial legislation for the regulation of the traffic, the opinion of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should be taken on the subject.

* Page 33.

I am, &c.
(signed) *W. G. Romaine.*

— No. 6. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Secretary to the
Admiralty.

No. 6.

Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Secretary to the
Admiralty.
24 April 1868.

Sir,

Downing-street, 24 April 1868.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to transmit to you an extract of a letter from E. Percy,† the father of John Percy, a seaman of the schooner "Mary Ida," or "Mary Jane," of Sydney, who is supposed to have been murdered, with others of the crew of that vessel, by the natives of one of the South Sea Islands. I am desired by his Grace to request to be informed whether any further information has been received in connection with this vessel.

† 27 March 1868,
and page 72.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

— No. 7. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Secretary to the
Admiralty.

No. 7.

Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Secretary to the
Admiralty.
27 April 1868.

Sir,

Downing-street, 27 April 1868.

I HAVE laid before the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos your letter of the 21st ultimo,‡ suggesting that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should be consulted on the question of Colonial legislation respecting the introduction into Queensland of South Sea Islanders as labourers.

‡ Page 37.

I am directed by his Grace to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that his Grace had communicated with the Foreign Office on this subject prior to the date of your letter.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and
Admiralty.

— No. 8 —

COPY of a LETTER from *W. G. Romaine*, C.B., to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 8.

W. G. Romaine,
C.B., to the Under
Secretary of State
for the Colonies.
28 April 1868.

* Page 37.

Sir,

Admiralty, 28 April 1868.

WITH reference to your letter of the 24th instant,* requesting to be informed whether any further information has been received in connection with the plunder of the "Mary Ida," of Sydney, and the murder of her owners by the natives of the New Hebrides, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state, for the information of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, that no further information has been received respecting this affair since the date of the Despatch of Commodore Lambert, 4th August 1867, by which it appeared that the "Mary Ida" had gone into the South Seas for the purpose of procuring natives, and that the crew were murdered in revenge for the non-restoration of natives who had been taken off to Fiji.

I am, &c.

(signed) *W. G. Romaine*.

— No. 9. —

No. 9.
T. F. Elliot, Esq.,
to the Secretary to
the Admiralty.
29 May 1868.

COPY of LETTER from *T. Frederick Elliot*, Esq., to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 May 1868.

I HAVE laid before the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos your letter of the 28th ultimo, on the subject of the plunder of the "Mary Ida," of Sydney, and the murder of the owners by the natives of the New Hebrides.

With reference to the concluding statement, to the effect that the crew had been murdered in revenge for the non-restoration of natives who had been taken away to the Fiji Islands, his Grace thinks it necessary to draw the attention of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Captain Blake's Report of 4th August 1867,† and to the statement of the chief of Emel Island appended to it, both of which are annexed to Admiral Lambert's Report, to which their Lordships refer, and from which it appears that the natives were supposed to have been actuated partly by desire of plunder, but were stated by their chief to have been moved by five specific cases of brutal treatment or accidental death of natives, who in general appear to have been employed on board of different English trading vessels, none of which cases, as far as appears, had anything to do with the procuring of labourers, to which their Lordships appear to ascribe these outrages, both in the present letter and in the letter of 7th December 1867.‡

I have, &c.

(signed) *T. Frederick Elliot*.

† Page 34.

‡ Page 33.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Foreign
Office.

Correspondence between the Colonial Office and the Foreign Office.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Right Hon. *E.*
Hammond to the
Under Secretary of
State.

COPY of a LETTER from the Right Honourable *E. Hammond*, to the Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, 24 February 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you a copy of a letter from the French Ambassador at this Court, enclosing an extract of a Despatch from the Governor of New Caledonia, complaining of the proceedings of certain British vessels in carrying off natives from the Loyalty Islands.

I am

I am to request that, in laying these papers before the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, you will move his Grace to enable Lord Stanley to reply to the French Ambassador's Representation.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Foreign
Office. _____

I am, &c.
(signed) *E. Hammond.*

Enclosure in No. 1.

M. le Ministre,

Londres, 20 Février 1868.

M. le Marquis de Moustier vient de m'adresser, et j'ai l'honneur d'envoyer, ci-joint, à votre Excellence l'extrait d'un rapport de M. le Gouverneur de la Nouvelle Calédonie relatif à des enlèvements d'indigènes qui auraient été effectués par des navires Anglais aux îles Loyalty. En me priant de signaler ces faits à votre Excellence, M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères m'invite à lui demander de vouloir bien adresser aux autorités Anglaises en Australie, les instructions qu'elle jugera utiles pour en prévenir le renouvellement. Encl. in No. 1.

Je vous serai très-reconnaissant, M. le Ministre, de vouloir bien me faire connaître les dispositions que le Gouvernement de la Reine jugerait convenable de prendre relativement à cette affaire, et je saisis cette occasion.

(signé) *Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne.*

S. E. Lord Stanley.

M. Guillaumin au Ministre de la Marine.

EXTRAIT.

DEPUIS quelque temps des navires Anglais opèrent des enlèvements d'indigènes à Maré à Ouvéa et même à Lifou. Ces enlèvements naturellement prohibés par le Gouvernement Calédonien à la connaissance des Gouverneurs Australiens, sont facilités par quelques chefs et il s'en est même opéré dans des circonstances auxquelles les ministres protestants ont paru n'être pas étrangers. Ce sont des actes de quasi piraterie qui puisent la colonie des bras qui lui font déjà tant défaut.

— No. 2. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Under Secretary of State, Foreign Office.

No. 2.
Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the Under
Secretary of State.
17 March 1868.

Sir,

Downing-street, 17 March 1868.

I HAVE laid before the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos your letter of 24th ultimo,* enclosing one from the French Ambassador, on the subject of a complaint made by the Governor of New Caledonia of the kidnapping of natives of the Loyalty Islands by the crews of British vessels.

His Grace would suggest that the reply to the French Government should be, that Her Majesty's Government are aware that lawless and cruel acts have been from time to time committed in these seas by Europeans, leading to bloody retaliation from the natives; that Her Majesty's Government have had occasion to consider the mode of repressing such outrages, so far as they may be chargeable on British subjects, but have found great difficulty in dealing with them effectually. They would be very glad to be furnished by the French Government with the details of any cases which have come to their knowledge, in order both to the punishment of the criminals, if practicable, and because the consideration of specific cases may suggest some more effectual mode of dealing with them than at present exists.

At the same time his Grace desires to point out that proceedings of this kind must be distinguished from an emigration of labourers, which appears to be going on to some extent from some of the islands in the South Seas to Queensland, and in regard to which regulations for the benefit of the immigrants have been suggested to the Governor of Queensland, in which Colony some of these emigrants have arrived.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

* Page 38.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emigra-
tion Office.

Correspondence between the Colonial Office and the Emigration Office.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Emigration Com-
missioners.
5 Oct. 1867.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Emigration Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 5 October 1867.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to transmit to you, for your report, the enclosed copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Queensland relating to the treatment of natives of the South Sea Islands, who are employed as labourers in that Colony.

I am desired to request that you will inform me whether it occurs to you that any further steps could be taken by the Queensland Government or Legislature to secure that these persons are not induced to go to the Colony by false representations, or under contracts which they do not understand; that they are properly treated while they are in the Colony, and that the engagements to send them back to their own country are duly observed.

It has been suggested to his Grace that it might be advisable that it should be enacted by the Local Legislature that such contracts should not be enforceable against the natives, unless their provisions are approved as fair by the Government.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers*.

— No. 2. —

No. 2.
T. W. C. Murdoch,
Esq., to Sir F.
Rogers, Bart.
24 Oct. 1867.

COPY of a LETTER from *T. W. C. Murdoch*, Esq., to Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart.

Sir,

Emigration Board, 24 October 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of 5th instant, with a Despatch from the Governor of Queensland, on the subject of the employment in that Colony of the natives of some of the South Sea Islands. You desire us to report whether any measures beyond those already in force could be taken by the Queensland Government for the protection of this class of labourers.

2. The question arises from a statement made to Captain Luce, of Her Majesty's ship "Esk," that outrages recently committed on Europeans by some South Sea Islanders were in retaliation for the fraudulent abduction of some of their countrymen to Queensland and the Fiji Islands. As regards Queensland, it appears that the introduction of the South Sea Islanders was commenced in 1862 by Captain Towns, Member of the Legislative Council in New South Wales, and owner of a cotton estate in Queensland; that the whole number introduced has been 382; that of these 78, who were under engagements for one year only, have been sent back to their country; and that the others, who are mostly under engagements for three years, will be provided with back passages at the end of that time. Sir G. Bowen adds, that the principal employer of these people is Captain Towns, and after him, Captain Whish, late of the 14th Light Dragoons.

3. So far as regards the people now in the Colony, there seems no reason to doubt that they have been treated kindly and loyally; nor, apparently, would there be any ground for apprehension, if the immigration remained as limited as at present; but as the experiment seems to have succeeded with Captain Towns and Captain Whish, it is probable that other settlers may desire to follow their example

No. 36, 13 July
1867, page 11.

example, especially if the cultivation of cotton in Queensland should, as may be expected and hoped, prove remunerative. In that case it would not be safe to trust altogether to the justice and good faith of the settlers for the protection of people of this class.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emigra-
tion Office.

4. In 1862, in anticipation of Indian immigration, the Legislature of Queensland passed an Act authorising the Governor to make rules, to have the force of laws, regulating the introduction of Indian immigrants, and their protection in the Colony. In exercise of this power, the Governor proclaimed a set of rules prescribing, with great minuteness, the mode of engaging emigrants in India, and the protection to be afforded them in the Colony. It would not be necessary, in the case of the small number of South Sea Islanders likely to be introduced, to establish such detailed and elaborate regulations; but if the Legislature should be willing to entrust the Governor with a similar power of making rules for the protection of South Sea Islanders, all that is necessary might be done. The following are, I think, the principal points to which such rules should be directed: first, that the ships to be employed in the service should have adequate accommodation, should be properly found, and should not carry above a prescribed number in proportion to their deck area. Second, that no one should be allowed to introduce these immigrants except under a non-transferable license from the Government. Third, that the general tenor of the contract to be entered into with them should be prescribed by the Government, and that the contracts, to be valid, should be countersigned by the immigration agent on the arrival of the immigrants. Fourth, that the immigrants should be placed under the special superintendence of the local magistracy; and as a consequence, that none should be allowed to estates so remote as to be withdrawn from such superintendence. Fifth, that a power should be reserved to the Government of cancelling a contract in case of the ill usage of the immigrant by his master, or of the non-fulfillment of the conditions of the contract. Sixth, that the contract should not be for a period exceeding five years; and, seventh, that security should be taken that the immigrant should be re-conveyed to his own country at the time stipulated in the contract; and that fair compensation should be made to him for any unreasonable delay in fulfilling that condition.

5. The detail of regulations to this effect could be best arranged by the local Government, especially in respect to the shipping arrangements, which must depend very much on local circumstances. If such regulations are established and enforced, there will be no risk of the illusage of South Sea Island immigrants, and no objection, so far as I can perceive, to their introduction into the Colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) T. W. C. Murdoch.

— No. 3. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., to the Emigration Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 13 December 1867.

WITH reference to your letter of the 24th October, I am directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for any suggestions and observations which you may have to offer, the enclosed letter from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty upon the subject of the introduction into Queensland of the inhabitants of the South Seas.

I am, &c.
(signed) Frederic Rogers.

No. 3.
Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Emigration Com-
missioners.
13 Dec. 1867.

7 Dec. 1867.
Page 33.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emigra-
tion Office.

— No. 4. —

COPY of a LETTER from *T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq.*, to *Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart.*

No. 4.
T. W. C. Murdoch,
Esq. to Sir F.
Rogers, Bart.
23 Dec. 1867.

* 7 Dec. 1867,
page 33.

Emigration Board, 23 December 1867.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of the 13th instant, with one from the Secretary to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty,* expressing their Lordships' decided objection to any attempt to introduce South Sea Islanders as labourers into Queensland. Their Lordships observed that the South Sea Islanders are incapable of understanding a written contract; that they will not knowingly engage themselves to work far from their own country, or for more than a few months; that whatever laws are made for their protection, no proper or efficient control can be exercised over the manner in which they are collected and placed on board ship; and that the task of collection and shipment is likely, from the nature of the work, to fall into the hands of an unscrupulous and mercenary set, who will commit acts of kidnapping, piracy, and murder. Their Lordships refer, in support of these opinions, to what took place in respect to an emigration from some of these islands to Peru in 1862-63, as reported in Despatches from Admiral Kingcome, which are enclosed.

† Page 11.

2. In respect to the people themselves, I may, however, observe, that the reports received from the various officers who have inquired into the matter scarcely bear out the opinion that they are incapable of understanding a written engagement, and will not engage to work for more than a few months, or at a distance from their homes. In the Despatch from the Governor of Queensland of 13th July last,† it is stated that the South Sea Islanders introduced by Captain Towns had been employed under written engagements, some of them for a year, which having expired, they had been sent back to their country; others for three years, which were still in force; while in the report from Captain Richards, of Her Majesty's ship "Hecate," to Admiral Kingcome, dated 8th May 1863, it is stated that Mr. English, of Fanning Island, had been in the habit for 10 years of employing natives from the neighbouring islands on his cocoa plantations, under a written agreement with their king; that they engaged themselves for periods of from one to two years; that the engagement was fair and equitable, and advantageous to both parties; and that many, at the end of their term, renewed their engagements.

3. In respect to the control that might be established over the collection and shipment of the people, I suggested that no one should be allowed to introduce such immigrants, except under a non-transferable license, and that regulations should be established, having the force of law, in respect to the accommodation to be provided on board ship. The effect would be to enable the Government to require security that the people should be engaged in an open and fair manner, while the examination of the people by the immigration agent on their arrival, and his counter-signature of their engagements, would afford an opportunity of ascertaining that the people understood the engagements they had made; that they had entered into them willingly, and that the terms were fair. Under such a system it would be scarcely possible that acts of kidnapping, piracy, or murder, in the collection or despatch of these people, could be committed without discovery.

4. That crimes of that description may be committed in the conduct of emigration to foreign ports we are well aware, from the emigration of Chinese from Macao to Cuba and Peru. But we have likewise proof, in the emigration from Canton to British Colonies, that an emigration may be carried on at the same time alongside of it, free from all such abuses, and advantageous alike to the emigrants and the Colonies. I see no reason to doubt that this might be effected in the South Sea Islands, as it has been effected in China.

5. But it may be said that the South Sea Islanders will not distinguish between Europeans, and that they will avenge on innocent British subjects the outrages that have been committed upon them by Europeans other than British. If the immigration were set on foot, licenses to introduce immigrants into the British Colonies would not, I presume, be given indiscriminately for any of the islands

islands of the Pacific, but would be restricted to a few of the more civilised islands; and as a general rule to those where missions are established. In that case the natives of such islands would soon learn, as the Chinese have learnt, to distinguish between emigration to British and to other colonies. It is no doubt possible that some disreputable British subjects might engage in procuring emigrants by irregular means for foreign colonies; but men of that class would be controlled, rather than assisted, by the regulated emigration conducted under British law, and would be certain to avoid, instead of seeking, the islands where they would be likely to come under the notice of Englishmen engaged in a legitimate trade.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emigra-
tion Office.

6. If it be said that the outrages that have been already committed by South Sea Islanders are attributed to revenge for the abduction of some of their countrymen, I may be allowed to point out that the principal authority for this statement is the Chief of Emel Island, who endeavoured thereby to excuse himself to Captain Blake, of Her Majesty's ship, "Falcon," for the murder of the crew of the "Mary Ida." Some of the stories told by him are of old date, and would not be easily credible on much better authority; others of them amount to nothing; and it is to be observed that Captain Blake, in reporting the statement, says there was a strong suspicion that the men who murdered the Europeans on board the "Mary Ida" had been placed on board the ship by the chief from "feelings of cupidity," and that he was unable to ascertain if there was any truth in the allegation that the natives of Hinchinbroke had committed the murders of which they were accused, in revenge for the non-restoration of their fellow countrymen; but that the missionaries of Sandwich were not aware that complaints of that kind existed.

7. If emigrants from the South Sea Islands were introduced into Queensland there could be no reason to apprehend that they would not be well treated by the employers, and sufficiently protected by the Government. The Legislature would probably invest the Governor with power to make regulations for their protection, in the same way as for Indian immigrants; and in that case the Governor would no doubt apply the principles of the regulations of 1862 for Indian immigrants to the South Sea Islanders. Those regulations contain many details not applicable to South Sea Islanders, but the clauses relating to the protection of the immigrants might with little variation be applied to them.

8. If then the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos should be of opinion that the immigration of South Sea Islanders to Queensland is beneficial, and ought not to be prevented, I venture to think that there need be no insuperable difficulty in so regulating the conduct of it as to prevent abuses in the collection and dispatch of the emigrants, and to secure their good treatment after arrival in the Colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) T. W. C. Murdoch.

— No. 5. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Emigration Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 28 April 1868.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for any suggestions and observations which you may have to offer, the enclosed Despatch from the officer administering the Government of Queensland, forwarding petition to the Queen from certain inhabitants of Brisbane, on the subject of the introduction into the Colony of South Sea Islanders as labourers; together with a copy of a Bill which was before the local Parliament "to regulate and control the introduction and treatment of Polynesian labourers." A copy of the Duke of Buckingham's Despatch, No. 40,* of the 9th of November 1867, referred to by Colonel O'Connell, is annexed. I am also to enclose for your suggestions and observations a Despatch from the Governor of New South Wales,† forwarding a petition from certain Missionaries representing the Presbyterian Church in the

o.90.

F 2

New

No. 5.
Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Emigration Com-
missioners.
28 April 1868.

No. 12, 27 Jan.
1868, page 13.

* Page 24.

† No. 26, 29 Feb.
1868, page 27.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emigra-
tion Office.

New Hebrides, in which they request that an investigation may be made into the practice of engaging the natives of those islands for service in Queensland and other places.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

— No. 6. —

No. 6.

T. W. C. Murdoch, COPY of a LETTER from *T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq.*, to Sir *Frederic Rogers, Bart.*
Esq., to Sir F.
Rogers, Bart.

6 May 1868.

Sir,

Emigration Board, 6 May 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of the 28th ultimo, with Despatches from the Governor of New South Wales, and the officer administering the Government of Queensland, enclosing, the former, a memorial to the Governor, and the latter, a petition to the Queen, against the exportation of inhabitants of some of the South Sea Islands to Queensland and other places.

2. The memorial to the Governor of New South Wales proceeds from certain Presbyterian missionaries employed in six of the islands of the New Hebrides group. They enclose a statement of the evils which they consider to arise from the emigration of natives of those islands, and request the Governor to institute an inquiry into them. The evils they complain of are, 1st. That the natives are taken away fraudulently or by force. 2nd. That they are exposed to great hardship and privations on the voyage. 3rd. That they are sometimes ill used, which leads to acts of vengeance on their part. 4th. That they do not understand the engagements made with them, and that there are no means of securing the fulfilment of such engagements by the employer. 5th. That they are retained for longer periods than they engage for. 6th. That they are insufficiently paid. 7th. That their wives are left behind and marry with other men, which leads to quarrels on their return. 8th. That the strongest and most active are taken, and the old and infirm only remain. 9th. That those who go come back demoralised; and, 10th. That the emigration is under no control. The memorialists state that the emigration is carried on under the British, the American, and the French flags, and the places to which the emigrants are carried are Queensland, Fiji, New Caledonia, Tahiti, Torres Straits, "and other parts." In support of the several complaints in their statement, the memorialists give instances of what they allege. These instances, however, with two exceptions, relate exclusively to emigrants taken to Fiji. The exceptions are, that the South Sea Islanders are incited to acts of revenge by illusage; in support of which the murder of the crew of the "*Mary Ida*" by the inhabitants of Emel Island is cited; and that the temporary separation of man and wife leads to subsequent quarrels; in support of which the case of a man who went to Queensland, and whose wife, during his absence, married another man, is brought forward. In respect to the murder of the crew of the "*Mary Ida*," I would beg to refer to my report of 23rd December last,* from which it will be seen that the excuse offered for that outrage is open to much suspicion. As regards the possible bigamy of women whose husbands emigrate, I do not see how the Government can interfere.

* Page 42.

3. The memorial to the Queen from inhabitants of Queensland alleges that a number of South Sea Islanders have been introduced into the Colony without the sanction of the Government, and without the control of any local law; that many are believed to have been kidnapped by force or fraud; that they have not been sent back as promised at the end of their engagements; and that the frauds practised on them have led to acts of revenge on their part. The memorialists add that they view with "dismay" the introduction into the Colony of an inferior and uncivilised race to supplant the British and European labourer, which they denounce as "a development of the slave trade, with its attendant evils in its most modern form."

4. Such being the representations of the memorialists, it remains to be considered how far they apply to emigration from the South Sea Islands to British Colonies, and how far the Government have power to interfere in the matter. The only emigration which has taken place from the South Sea Islands to a
British

British Colony is to Queensland. Into that Colony about 380 South Sea Islanders were introduced between 1862 and 1867 by Captain Towns, a member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, and Captain Whish, a settler for the purpose of being employed in the cultivation of cotton. In consequence of a statement that outrages committed by the inhabitants of one of the South Sea Islands were in retaliation for the fraudulent abduction of their fellow-countrymen, an inquiry was last year instituted into the matter by the Governor of Queensland, the result of which was to show that the people in question had been treated by their employers with kindness and good faith; that such of them as had completed their engagements had been seen back to their homes; but that the engagements of the majority were still unexpired. As far as regarded these people no interference was required; but as there might be a risk, if it was proposed to introduce larger numbers, that abuses might occur, the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, directed Sir G. Bowen to propose to the Legislature of Queensland to invest the Governor with authority, to make regulations for the government of this immigration, to the same extent as they had previously done with reference to Indian immigrants. His Grace at the same time suggested the several points which such regulations should include.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emigra-
tion Office.

5. It appears that while this instruction was on its way to Queensland, the Colonial Legislature had taken up the subject, and had introduced a Bill, which has already passed the House of Assembly, and is enclosed in the Administrators' Despatch, enacting the precise regulations which the Duke of Buckingham had suggested. These regulations require, that any person desiring to introduce South Sea Islanders should obtain a license from the Government to do so, and should give security for the return of the people to their country at the expiration of three years; that the master of a vessel in which such immigrants are to be introduced, shall enter into a bond to prevent kidnapping, and to observe the prescribed regulations; that on his arrival in the Colony he shall produce a certificate from a consul, missionary, or other known person at the island from which the immigrants are brought, that they have voluntarily engaged themselves, and understand the nature of their engagements; and the immigration agent is required, before the people are allowed to land, to ascertain and certify the same facts; the form of agreement between the employer and the immigrant, and the scale of rations to be allowed to the latter, are prescribed; the number of passengers that may be carried in a vessel in proportion to her deck area is defined; the dietary and water to be issued on the voyage are fixed; a summary jurisdiction is established for enforcement of the regulations; and any vessel introducing South Sea Islanders in contravention of them is subjected to a penalty of 20*l.* per head.

6. So far as regards emigration from the South Sea Islands to Queensland, this Bill is the practical answer to the memorials both to Her Majesty and to the Governor of New South Wales. If properly carried out, it would provide an effectual protection against fraud or force in the collection of the people; against abuses on the voyage; against their ill-treatment during the period of their engagements, and against their unfair retention after their engagements are completed. It would not, indeed, prevent the emigration of the strongest and most energetic, nor their alleged demoralisation. The strongest and most energetic, will, in every country, be the first to emigrate; and the alleged demoralisation may, perhaps, be only the exaggerated self-assertion and independence which an uneducated savage would, under such circumstances, be likely to assume. At any rate, without absolutely prohibiting any introduction of these people into British Colonies, and even the employment of British ships in the emigration, I do not see in what way the British Government can prevent such results.

7. Whether it is right, as a general principle, to permit the introduction of an inferior and uncivilized race into a British Colony, so strongly deprecated in the Queensland memorial, is a question which I do not presume to discuss. As far as the immigrant is concerned, it would be useless to deny that it may be attended with some disadvantage; but that, on the whole, a race of so low a type as natives of the New Hebrides must derive great benefit from being brought into contact with a purer morality and a higher civilisation cannot be questioned. The apprehension of the inhabitants of Queensland of the effect on the Colony

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emi-
gration Office.

of introducing so uncivilised a population would be not unreasonable, if large numbers were likely to be introduced; but that is altogether improbable, and the Executive would, under the proposed Bill, always have the power of placing a limit on the number.

8. As regards Queensland it appears to me that, if the proposed Bill is passed, the Government will have ample power both to protect the Colony against an excessive immigration of these people, and to protect the immigrants against ill treatment by the Colonists. It would be desirable that the people should not be allotted to any employer in remote districts where they would be removed from the supervision of the magistrates, and that licenses should not be granted for their introduction from any island where there are not either English or American missionaries or an English consul. This is to a certain extent implied, though not expressed in the Bill. If similar immigrants should hereafter be introduced into other British Colonies there would probably be no difficulty in obtaining from the Legislatures of such Colonies similar powers for the management of the immigration. But, as regards the immigration to other places than British Colonies, I do not see how the Government can interfere. The principal place to which immigrants from the New Hebrides are carried appears to be the Fiji Islands. I am not aware that Her Majesty's Government have any legal powers to prevent British shipowners undertaking the conveyance of immigrants between those two groups of islands, and even if it were thought right to apply to Parliament for such powers, it would be very difficult to give them effect. To do so it would be necessary to keep vessels continually cruising in the neighbourhood of the New Hebrides, an arrangement which I apprehend neither the Government nor Parliament would be prepared to sanction, especially as this would only transfer the emigration to French and American vessels. Under such circumstances and with such results in view, nothing but clear proof of gross abuse would, I submit, justify the interference of the Government; and, as far as our information goes no such abuse has yet been proved.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdock.*

— No. 7. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Emigration Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 13 June 1868.

WITH reference to your Report of 6th May,* and to previous correspondence on the subject, I am directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for any suggestions and observations which you may have to offer, the enclosed Act of the Legislature of Queensland, "To Regulate and Control the Introduction and Treatment of Polynesian Labourers," together with a copy of so much of an explanatory statement of the Attorney General of the Colony on the Acts of the Session, as relates to this Act.

I am also desired to annex the copy of a Despatch from the Administrator of the Government explanatory of this Act.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

Enclosure in No. 7.

REPORT of the Local Attorney General on the Act, No. 47.

Enclosure in No. 7.

THIS is an Act which has been passed for the especial purpose of ensuring the maintenance of just and proper relations between the Polynesian Islanders and their employers. It will be found on referring to the various clauses in the Bill, that most of the requirements suggested by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his Despatch on this subject to his Excellency Governor Bowen, of the 9th of November 1867, No. 40,† have been complied with, and that every care has been taken by the Bill to ensure the protection of these islanders.

(signed) *R. Pring.*

No. 7.

Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Emigration
Commissioners.
13 June 1868.
* Page 44.

Act No. 47 of 1868.
Appendix, page 73.

No. 25, 23 March
1868.
Page 22.

† Page 24.

— No. 8. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to the Emigration Commissioners.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emi-
gration Office.

No. 8.

Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to the
Emigration
Commissioners.
13 June 1868.

* Printed at page
56.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 13 June 1868.

WITH reference to my letter of this day's date, forwarding the copy of an Act passed by the Legislature of Queensland, entitled "An Act to Regulate and Control the Introduction and Treatment of Polynesian Labourers," I am directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to transmit to you, for your report, the enclosed copy of a protest* against the provisions of this Act, which has been received from the secretary to the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers*.

— No. 9. —

COPY of a LETTER from *T. W. C. Murdoch*, Esq., to Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart.

No. 9.

T. W. C. Murdoch,
Esq., to Sir F.
Rogers, Bart.
16 June 1868.

Sir,

Emigration Board, 16 June 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letters of 13th instant; the first enclosing an Act passed by the Legislature of Queensland, entitled "An Act to Regulate and Control the Introduction and Treatment of Polynesian Labourers;" the second enclosing a protest against this Act from the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

2. The Act in its essential provisions is a transcript of the regulations attached to the Bill introduced into the Legislative Council in December last, on which it was my duty to offer some remarks in my Report of 6th ultimo.† The only new provisions are Sections 2 to 4, which apply the Act to Polynesian immigrants already in the Colony; Section 5, which authorises the appointment of an officer for the proper inspection of labourers and the enforcement of the Act; Section 7, which requires the master of a vessel to provide medicines, medical comforts, and other things necessary for the treatment of disease or accident on the voyage, &c.; Section 17, which limits the numbers to be carried by the space on the upper deck for exercise; Section 22, which requires a quarterly return of all cases adjudicated upon in relation to these immigrants; Section 25, which places engagements made with such immigrants under the provisions of the Masters and Servants Act of 1861; Section 28, which prohibits the removal of any of these immigrants from the Colony without his own consent and the written permission of the Government; and Section 30, which forbids a deduction from wages on account of stores supplied to the immigrants.

† Page 44.

3. These new provisions have evidently been introduced in the interest of the labourer, and are improvements. There appears, however, to be an error in the form of Section 7, which will require alteration. By the 6th section persons desirous of importing South Sea Islanders are to obtain a license in a specified form, to the effect that the person named therein, or his agent, is licensed to recruit immigrant labourers, &c. Section 7 then provides that "the owner or charterer of any vessel so licensed" shall provide certain stores, &c. Nothing, however, had before been said about the licensing a vessel. It may be a question whether it would not be desirable to require that the vessel in which the people are introduced should be licensed for the service, as such provision would ensure her proper survey and equipment, would prevent the employment of casual vessels which might not meet the requirements of the Act, and would give the Colonial Government an opportunity of ascertaining the character of the master of any vessel that might be employed. As the clause stands at present it is inoperative, from the error of description. In other respects the additions to the Act appear unobjectionable. Unless, therefore, the importation of South Sea Islanders into Queensland is to be absolutely prohibited, I see no reason for with-

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emi-
gration Office.

holding Her Majesty's assent to the Act. The Acting Governor reports that he did not reserve it for Her Majesty's pleasure, because a considerable number of the islanders were being introduced, and it was, therefore, necessary to bring the immigration at once under control. This appears to be a sufficient justification of the course he took. A return enclosed in his Despatch shows that the number of South Sea Islanders recently introduced has been 918, and that the ships which brought them carried a much larger number than their size would warrant.

4. But the committee of the Anti-Slavery Society protest *in toto* against the Act, as "being illegal in principle." They also object to its provisions in detail.

First. They allege that members of the Legislature who were pecuniarily interested in the immigration voted for the Act. If this were so, it would be contrary to the rule and usage of Parliament; but the assertion is general and unsupported, and the committee do not profess to make it from their own knowledge.

Second. It is said that the Act by declaring the introduction of Polynesian labourers, except in conformity with the Act, to be unlawful, declares the illegality of antecedent importations. It is scarcely worth while to notice such an objection. The illegality created by the law could not exist before the law was passed.

Third. The committee remark that it is difficult to understand how a traffic, illegal under Imperial law and assimilated to piracy, can be declared legal by an inferior authority. Undoubtedly, if the immigration were illegal by Imperial law, it could not be legalised by Colonial statute. But it is not explained on what grounds it is assumed to be illegal. It evidently does not come within the scope of the Act, 5 Geo. 4, c. 113, inasmuch as that Act refers only to the dealing with persons who either are, or who are intended to be, employed as slaves. It is to be regretted that the precise law which makes the immigration "illegal" was not pointed out.

Fourth. It is assumed that the clause requiring returns from employers will be evaded, and that the penalty will not be enforced; because the friends of defaulters, or the justices of the peace, who themselves "may become employers of this new kind of slave labour," will not inform against them. It is of course impossible to say of any law that it will not be evaded. But the number of these immigrants introduced before the Act was so small that the Government could have no difficulty in tracing them, and those introduced after the Act are to be registered on their first arrival at the immigration office; and every subsequent transfer, death, or desertion, is to be registered also.

Fifth. An objection is taken to the clause authorising the appointment of an officer to enforce the provisions of the Act, that it does not make him directly responsible to the Government for the performance of his duty. It seems almost unnecessary to point out that every executive officer is directly responsible to the Government for the performance of his duty, and removable in case of default.

Sixth. The sixth clause, which authorises private individuals to recruit South Sea Islanders, is said to be opposed to the law and practice in respect to coloured immigration, and to be calculated to introduce a traffic which will merge into a slave trade. In respect to Indian and Chinese emigration, Her Majesty's Government have no doubt refused to allow the engagement of emigrants, otherwise than through a Government officer. If the emigration from the South Sea Islands were to become extensive, the same restriction would become necessary in respect to it also; but at present the area from which the immigrants are drawn is limited, and the number of immigrants is small, and there can, therefore, be no great difficulty in ascertaining the manner in which they are recruited, and in discovering and arresting abuses. The Act, by implication, provides against the recruitment of the inhabitants of any island in which Europeans are not residents, by requiring the master to produce a certificate from a "consul missionary, or other known person," that the emigrants have engaged voluntarily, and with a full understanding of what their engagement means.

Seventh.

Seventh. The committee point out a discrepancy between the Act and the form in the Schedule to it; the Act authorising a licensee to import, while the form only authorises him to "recruit" immigrants. I have already pointed out an error of the same kind in the 7th section. The intention of the Act is clear enough, but if it is allowed to go into operation it will be necessary that the 6th and 7th sections should be altered.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emi-
gration Office.

Eighth. It is alleged that this law affects the independence and liberty of the inhabitants of a foreign nation; that it would, therefore, be beyond the competence of the Imperial Parliament, and is, *à fortiori*, beyond that of a Colonial Legislature. In what way the law affects the independence or liberty of the South Sea Islanders is not stated. If there were no law at all on the subject it would, I presume, be competent to any British subject to enter into any contract he pleased with a native of the South Sea Islands or of any other country. The present Act, in the interest of the natives of those islands, places certain restrictions upon the liberty of the inhabitants of Queensland in this respect. In what way this can be described as affecting the independence and liberty of individuals of a foreign nation I do not understand.

Ninth. Objection is taken to Section 7, that, while it requires that medicines, &c. shall be provided, no provision is made to secure a duly qualified medical practitioner. The reason is, no doubt, that duly qualified medical practitioners could not in all cases be found, and that in a voyage in a calm sea and low latitude, the maximum duration of which is calculated at 30 days for a sailing ship and 15 days for a steamer, they would seldom be required. I may point out that the Imperial Passengers Act of 1855 does not require the presence of a medical practitioner in a vessel carrying fewer than 300 persons, where the voyage is calculated at less than 80 days for a sailing ship or 45 days for a steamer.

Tenth. Several objections are taken to the 8th section, viz: (1.) That it authorises the indenturing of labourers in the South Sea Islands to employers in Queensland. (2.) That such indentures are illegal, and would lead to irregularities of the gravest description. (3.) That the Legislature of Queensland have no power to authorise persons to recruit labourers in foreign countries. (4.) That the Government reserves to itself no power to interfere with the appointment of recruiting agents; and (5.) That it is objectionable to involve the missionaries in the traffic. In respect to the first two of the above objections, I may point out that the indenturing of Indian emigrants in India to employers in Mauritius and St. Vincent, and of Chinese in China to employers in British Guiana, Trinidad, Jamaica, St. Vincent, and Antigua has for several years been authorised under laws passed with the consent of Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India; that its legality has never been questioned, and that it has led, as far as we know, to no abuses; in respect to the third, that the Queensland law confers no new power, but places a power which previously existed under certain restrictions and conditions; as to the fourth, that the authority for the issue of a license is permissive only, not imperative; and that the Government may, therefore, and would be bound to, satisfy itself as to the character of the licensee; and as to the fifth, that it will be for the missionaries themselves to consider whether the function which the Act attributes to them is or is not inconsistent with the relations existing between themselves and the natives.

Eleventh. The penalty of 500 £. in the bond to be given by the master of a ship is said to be insufficient to prevent kidnapping, since if he could kidnap and bring in a cargo of 250 immigrants, they would be worth to him 2,500 £. But the committee ignore the fact that before the master could land a single immigrant he must produce the certificates required under Section 8, which could not possibly be procured in such a case.

Twelfth. A similar objection is taken to the fine of 10 £. for a breach of the regulations of the law, which is evidently not intended to apply to such an offence as kidnapping.

Thirteenth. The committee allege that Section 26, which imposes a fine of 20 £. a head on Polynesian labourers introduced contrary to the Act, and in default of payment makes the ship liable to forfeiture, will make the traffic a close trade. It is not clear whether this is stated as an objection or not, but it is obvious that the closer the trade the easier it will be to control it.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Emi-
gration Office.

Fourteenth. It is pointed out that the question of providing hospital accommodation for the immigrants is left open. If the immigration increases, it will hereafter be necessary to make some provision for the medical treatment of Polynesian immigrants similar to that required in the Mauritius and West Indies for Indians. But hitherto the number has been too small to make it necessary to require such a provision.

5. In conclusion, I cannot but observe, that throughout the letter from the Anti-Slavery Society it appears to be assumed that the South Sea Islanders in their own islands are in a condition of slavery, incapable of exercising an option as to whether they will enter into an engagement out of their country or not. It appears also to be further assumed that the settlers in Queensland will be disposed to treat these people on their arrival in the Colony as slaves, and that the local authorities will be unwilling or unable to protect them. Both assumptions, I venture to submit, are unjustified by anything that has hitherto occurred. The Polynesian Islanders, as a general rule, appear sufficiently able to understand the contracts into which they enter and the advantages offered them, and the Government and Legislature of Queensland, by the promptitude with which they have acted in the matter, have shown their anxiety, and by the provisions they have enacted, their confidence in their ability to afford these immigrants adequate protection. The general principles of the Act are the same as have been approved in respect to Indian and Chinese emigration; and although there are at present some omissions in the law which are sufficiently accounted for by the peculiar circumstances of the immigration, there is no reason to doubt that if this Act is allowed, the Legislature of Queensland will supply them hereafter, should the immigration attain important dimensions. The Anti-Slavery Society call on Her Majesty's Government to disallow the Act. It is clear, however, that the effect of disallowing the Act would be to leave the immigration altogether unregulated. Her Majesty's Government may disallow the Act of a Colonial Legislature, but they have no power to compel the Legislature to substitute another Act for that which is disallowed. Nothing short of the authority of Parliament would avail for that purpose, and it may be taken for granted that, except under a very clear and urgent necessity, Parliament would not interfere in such a matter with a Colony possessing a representative Legislature and a responsible Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) T. W. C. Murdoch.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

Correspondence between the Colonial Office and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.

W. A. Bennett,
Esq., and L. A.
Chamerozow,
Esq., to his Grace
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
13 March 1868.

COPY of a LETTER from A. W. Bennett, Esq., and L. A. Chamerozow, Esq.,
to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

27 New Broad-street, E.C.,
13 March 1868.

My Lord Duke,

THE committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have received copies of a series of official papers relating to the introduction of South Sea Islanders into Queensland, and of "A Bill to Regulate and Control the Introduction and Treatment of Polynesian Labourers," which has passed the Legislature of that Colony. The committee have also received the copy of an address from certain inhabitants of Brisbane to his Excellency Sir George Ferguson Bowen, the Governor in Chief of the Colony of Queensland, and its dependencies, praying his Excellency to suppress and prohibit the traffic in South Sea Islanders now being carried on.

These

These official documents, and the reports of public meetings which have been held at Brisbane, appear to establish conclusively the following facts:

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

1. That a considerable number of natives of the South Sea Islands have been imported to work professedly as contract labourers on certain plantations in Queensland.

2. That these people are engaged for terms of three years, at the rate of 2 s. 6 d. a week wages to be paid on the truck system at the expiration of their term of service.

3. That although certain of these people appear to have been engaged under some written form of agreement, considerable numbers of them have been kidnapped and forcibly brought into the Colony.

4. That the parties who bring these islanders into the Colony receive from 9 l. to 10 l. per head for them from the persons hiring them, an act tantamount to an actual sale.

5. That from the 18th August 1863 to the 31st October 1867, 1,267 of these islanders were introduced into Brisbane and the northern ports of the Colony, besides others not included in the official returns.

6. That although promises were held out to these people, that they should be restored to their homes within a given term, none have been sent back from the northern ports, and only 201 from Brisbane.

7. That this traffic though known to the Government, and not directly sanctioned by it, is carried on by private individuals without any public control or supervision whatever.

8. That persons occupying responsible public positions are engaged also in this traffic.

9. That the people who are thus brought into the Colony are unacquainted with our language, are wholly unprotected, and completely at the mercy of their employers.

The committee have been appalled by recent accounts of the massacre of white sailors frequenting some of these Polynesian Islands, and even of Christian missionaries resident there. They are assured that these murders are the retaliation of ignorant savages for deeds perpetrated in the course of the trade insidiously growing up in the South Sea Islands, which threatens to become a powerful hindrance to Christian missions, as well as to commercial and civilizing intercourse.

The committee respectfully beg to bring these facts under your Grace's consideration, and would suggest that as the new Governor of Queensland, his Excellency Major Samuel Wensley Blackall, will shortly take his departure for the Colony, the moment appears to be highly opportune for instructing his Excellency in relation to this subject.

The committee further submit that the Act lately accepted by the local Legislature, does not appear to them calculated to meet the exigencies of the case, the penalties being wholly inadequate to the offences enumerated. The committee are of opinion, that this trade in South Sea Islanders is a new form of the slave trade, and is illegal; and they venture to express the hope that Her Majesty's Government will prohibit its continuance, experience having lamentably proved that no amount of fine or penalty will suppress illegal traffic in human beings, so long as its gains hold out a sufficient inducement for its prosecution.

We have, &c.

(signed) *Alfred W. Bennett, M.A.,*
Chairman of Committee.
L. A. Chamerovzow, Secretary.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

— No. 2. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to *Alfred W. Bennett*, Esq., and *L. A. Chamerovzow*, Esq.

No. 2.

Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to
Alfred W. Bennett,
Esq., and *L. A.*
Chamerovzow,
Esq.

23 March 1868.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 23 March 1868.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, on the subject of the introduction of natives of the South Sea Islands into Queensland.

I am desired to request that you will furnish his Grace with the authorities on which the statements to which you refer respecting the treatment of the natives are founded.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers*.

No. 3.

— No. 3. —

*L. A. Chamerov-
zow*, Esq., to his
Grace the Duke
of Buckingham
and Chandos.

27 March 1868.

COPY of a LETTER from *L. A. Chamerovzow*, Esq., to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

27 New Broad-street, E.C.,
27 March 1868.

My Lord Duke,

In accordance with your Grace's request, conveyed in the communication from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, dated the 23rd current, to be furnished with the authorities upon which are founded the statements respecting the treatment of South Sea Islanders in Queensland, set forth in the memorial to your Grace from the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, I have the honour to refer your Grace to the annexed schedule, and

I remain, &c.
(signed) *L. A. Chamerovzow*, Secretary.

Encl. in No. 3.

Enclosure in No. 3.

SCHEDULE.

I.—Queensland.—Legislative Assembly.—Introduction of South Sea Islanders into Queensland. (Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 15th October 1867.)

Return to an Address of the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of Queensland, dated 26th September 1867, praying that his Excellency the Governor will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the table of this House.

"Copy of all Despatches and Correspondence in connection with the introduction of South Sea Islanders into this Colony."—(Dr. Challinor.)

II.—Queensland.—Legislative Assembly.—Trade between Queensland and South Sea Islands. (Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 15th October 1867.)

Return to an Order made by the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of Queensland, dated 9th October 1867, that there be laid upon the table of this House a Return showing:

"1. The number, names, and registered tonnage of all vessels engaged in trading between the several ports of this Colony and the South Sea Islands, from 10th December 1859, to the present time.

"2. The names of the owners, masters, and consignees of said vessels; also, the names of the persons by whom the same are chartered.

"3. The date of arrival and departure of each vessel respectively, and the entries of the cargo inwards and outwards.

"4. The number of South Sea Islanders brought by each vessel; the names of the persons by whom they were brought, and of those to whom they were consigned; also, the date of their arrival.

"5. The number of South Sea Islanders who have been returned to their homes in said vessels; the date of their departure; and the names of the persons in whose charge they were sent.

"6. A copy of the Government regulations under which this immigration has been conducted."—(Dr. Challinor.)

III.—Anno Tricesimo Primo Victoriae Reginae.—Queensland. A Bill to regulate and control the introduction and treatment of Polynesian labourers.

— No. 4 —

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to *L. A. Chamerovzow*, Esq.

No. 4.

Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to
L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.
27 April 1868.

Downing-street, 27 April 1868.

Sir,
I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, enclosing a schedule showing the authorities upon which the previous statements of the committee of the British Foreign Anti-Slavery Society were founded respecting the importation of labourers into Queensland from the South Sea Islands.

I am desired by his Grace to request that the Society will furnish him with such proofs as they possess of the third and eighth statements made in your letter of the 13th ultimo, namely, that "considerable numbers" of these islanders had "been kidnapped and forcibly brought into the Colony;" and that persons "occupying responsible public positions are engaged in this traffic."

It will obviously occur to you that these statements, and the facts alleged in support of them, should be authenticated by the names of the persons who make themselves responsible for their truth.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Frederic Rogers*.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.

COPY of a LETTER from *L. A. Chamerovzow*, Esq., to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.*L. A. Chamerovzow*, Esq., to his
Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
29 April 1868.27 New Broad-street, E.C.,
29 April 1868.

My Lord Duke,

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of Sir *Frederic Rogers*' letter of the 27th current, in reply to my communication of the 27th ultimo, on behalf of the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, on the subject of the illegal introduction into Queensland of natives of the South Sea Islands.

In answer to your Grace's request to be furnished with such proofs as the committee possess, of the third and eighth statements in the committee's communication of the 13th ultimo, namely, "that considerable numbers of these islanders had been kidnapped and forcibly brought into the Colony, and that persons occupying responsible public positions are engaged also in this traffic," I beg to refer your Grace to Nos. 2 and 3 of document No. 1 of the Schedule enclosed in the letter aforesaid of the 27th ultimo.

It would appear from the papers already referred to, and others in the possession of the committee, that the subject of the introduction of South Sea Islanders into Queensland was already under the notice of the Legislative Assembly in 1863. The committee, therefore, were under the impression that the whole circumstances of the case were known to Her Majesty's Government, especially as they are of great notoriety in the Colony; and, moreover, have recently been made the subject of a petition to Her Majesty, which would, of course, be transmitted through His Excellency the Governor to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies for the time being. A printed copy of this petition is enclosed.

Your Grace will observe that some of the Members of the Colonial Legislature, including the Premier himself, the Honourable R. R. Mackenzie, are personally implicated as active promoters of this new slave trade. This statement has been made openly in public meetings held at Brisbane, has been published in the local papers, and has not been contradicted.

Irrespective, however, of the parties who are actually engaged in these nefarious proceedings, the committee respectfully submit that the system itself is utterly indefensible, and is carried on in violation of the principles which regulate the emigration of Coolies from India to other British possessions. In the latter instance a kind of official supervision exists, which in a degree guarantees the interests and personal safety of the Coolie emigrant, but in the case of the South Sea Islanders there is no such supervision, the assent of the chiefs in authority to the expatriation of their countrymen does not appear to be even asked for, and the evidence of Captain J. P. Luce, the senior naval officer on the Australian station, warrants the assertion that many of the vessels

o.go.

G 3

trading

Enclosure.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

trading to the New Hebrides are manned by very lawless individuals, who have recourse to fraud and violence to obtain these so-called labourers, of whom they make a market in Queensland.

The committee would further submit that the system which your Grace has been requested and seems disposed to legalise, is identical with that called "free African emigration," carried on some years ago under the sanction of the French Government, but which, on the representations made by that of Her Majesty, was prohibited by the Emperor on the 30th October 1858. The opinion of the British Government on the French *engagé* system was thus conveyed by the Right Honourable the Earl of Malmesbury in a Despatch of the 15th of October 1858, addressed to Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary at Lisbon, on the subject of the seizure of the French vessel the "Charles et George," confiscated by the Portuguese authorities at Mozambique, as being engaged in the slave trade. In that Despatch, his Lordship says, "You are aware that Her Majesty's Government have never altered their opinion as to the analogous nature of the French scheme for exporting negroes with that of the avowed slave trade."

Many years before Her Majesty's Government had relinquished the scheme of obtaining so-called free labourers from Africa, for the reasons alleged in the Earl of Malmesbury's Despatch, and the committee are convinced that no regulations whatsoever would prevent this so-called free emigration from the South Sea Islands degenerating at once into the slave trade. To legalise such a system of emigration, to be conducted as proposed by private individuals, who once beyond the boundaries of the Colony would be subject to no control, were to license a new slave trade on the most extensive scale. The traffic being officially sanctioned by the British Government, a free trade in Polynesians would immediately spring up, and by force or by fraud they would be carried away by thousands to Cuba, to Brazil, to the Peruvian Guano Islands, or to any other country where forced labour is in demand; and the committee therefore hope that your Grace will not only withhold assent to the new Bill which has recently passed the Queensland Legislature, but will absolutely prohibit the continuance of the traffic, and give instructions for the immediate restoration to their homes, of the natives who have been already brought into the Colony

I have, &c.

(signed) L. A. Chamerovzow, Secretary.

Enclosure in No. 5.

ANTI-SLAVERY PETITION TO HER MAJESTY.

THE following is a copy of the petition that was adopted by a numerous and respectable audience at the close of Mr. Short's lecture, at the School of Arts, North Brisbane, on the climate of Queensland. That lecture was delivered as a useful supplement to two previous lectures, having for their object to show that the introduction of coloured labour into Queensland was in every way inimical to the present and future welfare of the Colony; and not only so, but was, in its first initiatory stages, with difficulty distinguishable from slavery, with which, with all its horrors and abominations, it would rapidly and inevitably become identified. It may be remarked that the opposition to the introduction of this kind of labour have not recognised the jurisdiction of the Colonial Legislature to deal with a question of this kind, as it is one which involves Imperial interests and policy; and have also been influenced by the consideration of the well-known circumstance that some of the members of the Colonial Legislature, including the Premier himself, are personally implicated as active promoters of this traffic in human beings. A former petition to Sir George Bowen, the late Governor of Queensland, praying him to use his best endeavours for the immediate prohibition of this "free emigration," falsely so called, was coldly received by his Excellency, and his reply was more than unsatisfactory. It was therefore deemed advisable, without further loss of time, to appeal directly to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. The petition has been forwarded to the Acting Governor of the Colony for transmission to Her Majesty by this mail.

"To Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

"The Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants of the Colony of Queensland, in Public Meeting assembled, in the City of Brisbane,

"Humbly sheweth,

"That your Majesty's petitioners have viewed with much anxiety the introduction into this Colony of a large number of natives of the South Sea Islands, by private individuals,
to

Encl. in No. 5.

to work as labourers on sugar plantations, cotton plantations, and on sheep and cattle stations.

"That these natives have been, and are still being, brought without the sanction of your Majesty's Government, without any Colonial law to control or regulate their introduction, to protect them afterwards, or to secure their return home on expiration of term of service.

"That your petitioners have reason to believe that many of these natives have been kidnapped and brought forcibly here, and others under false and deceptive representations; while many have been induced to come by the promise that they should be conveyed home within 12 months; that this promise has not been fulfilled; but, on the contrary, that many of these natives have been detained in the Colony for periods of three years and upwards, on the allegation they had been engaged for that time.

"That this breach of faith, combined with the illegal manner in which those natives have been obtained, has led to the loss of several vessels, and to the murder of several Europeans at the South Sea Islands by the natives, in revenge for the abduction and detention of their kindred. These facts are confirmed by Captain J. P. Luce, of your Majesty's steamer "Esk," the senior naval officer on the Australian station, who communicated to Sir George Ferguson Bowen, on the 25th April, A.D. 1867, as follows: 'I have lately received reports of the loss of several vessels, and the murder of several Europeans at Hinchinbroke, and other islands of the New Hebrides group. I enclose an extract from a letter written by a trader in that group, wherein you will see that he is informed the natives say they are doing these atrocities in revenge for the loss of many of their countrymen, who were carried away three years ago to Queensland and Fiji Islands by Europeans, who hired them as labourers, and promised to return them to their homes in 12 months.'

"Your petitioners have regarded with dismay the introduction of an inferior and uncivilised race into this Colony to supplant the British and European labourer, as it will have the effect of reducing to destitution and inactivity, the working classes of the Colony, who have been induced to emigrate here in large numbers by the hope of finding in Queensland an independent home and permanent employment; and they would earnestly advert to such introduction as irreconcilably opposed to the constitution of the Colony and the intention of its foundation.

"Wherefore your Majesty's humble petitioners most humbly pray that your Most Gracious Majesty will be pleased to prohibit this traffic in human beings, as being a development of the slave trade with its attendant evils in its most modern form.

"And your Most Gracious Majesty's petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

"Signed by the chairman at the unanimous request of, and on behalf of, the said public meeting.

"Joshua Jeays, Chairman.

"Brisbane, Queensland, 16 January 1868."

— No. 6. —

COPY of a LETTER from *T. Frederick Elliot, Esq.*, to *L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.*

No. 6.

*T. F. Elliot, Esq.,
to L. A. Chamerov-
zow, Esq.*

27 May 1868.

Sir,

Downing-street, 27 May 1868.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo,* in reply to the letter from this Department, of the 27th ultimo,† on the subject of the importation of labourers into Queensland from the South Sea Islands.

*Page 53.

†Page 53.

I am desired by his Grace to inform you that copies of the documents, to which the committee of the Anti-Slavery Society refer in proof of the third and eighth statements made in their letter of the 13th March, have not yet reached this office.

His Grace, therefore, desires me to request that the committee will be so good as to furnish him with copies of these documents, as specified in the schedule annexed to your letter of the 27th March.

The documents will be returned to the society.

The Act referred to has been duly received at this Department.

I have, &c.

(signed) *T. Frederick Elliot.*

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

— No. 7. —

No. 7.

L. A. Chamerov-
zow, Esq., to His
Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

23 May 1868.

COPY of a LETTER from *L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.*, to His Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and Chandos.

27, New Broad-street, E.C.

23 May 1868.

My Lord Duke,

THE committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have received by the last mail from Queensland a copy of the new "Act to Regulate and Control the Introduction and Treatment of Polynesian Labourers," recently passed by the Legislature of the Colony, assented to by the Acting Governor on the 4th March last, and which has been forwarded to your Grace for final approval.

Referring your Grace to my previous communications on this subject, the committee beg respectfully to submit the following observations on the new Act.

The request to legislate on this question appears to have emanated from certain persons, amongst whom, as the committee are informed, were Members of both Houses of the Legislature, who were themselves importers and employers of these islanders. The unlawful nature of the transaction had been publicly pointed out, and the committee submit, that by voting in favour of a measure in which these gentlemen were directly and pecuniarily interested, they have violated a well-known constitutional law, and contravened the established usage and practice of Parliament.

The first clause, by declaring it to be unlawful to introduce Polynesian labourers, except in accordance with the Act, is a declaration of the illegality of all antecedent importations. It is difficult to understand how a traffic, illegal under Imperial law, and assimilated to piracy, can be declared legal by an authority inferior to Imperial authority.

Clause II. obliges employers of Polynesian emigrants to make a return, within four months, of all such labourers in their employment. The committee entertain the conviction that the requirements of this clause will be evaded, and that the returns specified will not account for the people who may have died from natural causes, nor for those who may have been lost, starved, or killed. It ought to be made imperative to require the names of labourers who may have been, from the first, employed by the party making such return.

Clause III. imposing a penalty for failure in making returns, must, in the very nature of things, prove inoperative. It is not to be supposed that the personal friends and neighbours of defaulters, or that the justices of the peace for country districts, who under this Act may become employers of this new kind of slave labour, and therefore may also themselves become offenders, are likely to assume the office of a common informer. These country justices of the peace are almost, without exception, squatters, having with their class a community of interests; and experience in our West India Colonies, has proved that it is unwise and imprudent to permit employers, as justices of the peace, to adjudicate upon questions connected with their own labourers. In the absence of a public officer, whose special duty it might be to visit estates, and make returns, this unpleasant and invidious task will assuredly not be voluntarily undertaken by anyone; and hence the clause will be of no effect. It is also obvious, that as the penalty for contravention is not to exceed a fine of 50*l.*, the smallest fine will, as a rule, be the maximum penalty.

Clause IV. gives the law an *ex post facto* effect, and will therefore be found impracticable in operation. The very wording that the Act shall, "so far as practicable," be applicable to certain individuals, points inevitably to this conclusion.

Clause V. would be less unsatisfactory, if it had made the officer proposed to be appointed, directly responsible to the Government for the due performance of his duty.

Clause VI. is directly opposed to both the law and the practice relating to coloured immigration into other Colonies. In none of the tropical dependencies of the British Empire are coloured labourers allowed to be introduced by private enterprise. In proposing, therefore, to legalise their introduction into Queensland by individuals, a new and most dangerous precedent is being estab-
lished

13 Mar. 1868, p. 50.
27 Mar. 1868, p. 52.
29 April 1868, p. 53.

lished. This will inevitably lead to the grossest abuses. Under cover of it, a traffic in coloured people will spring up, which will rapidly assume the character and proportions of the slave trade, differing from it only in name. Your Grace has but to refer to the regulations under which coolies are permitted to be introduced into the West Indies and Mauritius, to be satisfied that the Act under notice violates every principle which has hitherto governed the importation of foreign labourers into the Colonies aforesaid. In none of these Colonies are the employers of immigrant labour permitted to make laws that are not strictly in accordance with the Imperial policy. If, therefore, Her Majesty's Government do not reject this Bill, it is difficult to perceive how it will be able to refuse to allow all the other Colonies to claim the same privileges as it confers.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

The committee would further observe that there are also discrepancies pertaining to this clause, which wholly vitiate its effect. The applicant, that is to say, the employer, is to receive a license "in Form C," to import the number of labourers he may require. "Form C," however, does not purport to be a license to "import," but "a license to recruit labourers from the South Sea Islands." These terms have a widely different signification. The one takes effect in the Colony, the other beyond it. The license authorised by the Act confers on the employer the privilege of bringing into, or receiving in the Colony, a certain class of labourers; whereas the license in the form referred to gives him a right to recruit, that is, to enlist, engage, or collect these labourers in the South Sea Islands, for which no provision is made in the Act itself. It is clear that "Form C" is not in accordance with the provisions of the enabling clause, that no other form is provided or authorised to be used; that there is no provision authorising the issue of licenses "to recruit," and therefore, in the absence of such authority, no such licenses can legally be issued.

There are certain important questions on constitutional and international law arising out of this clause, upon which, however, the committee do not desire to dwell at any length. It must, nevertheless, be obvious to your Grace, that no Colonial Legislature can usurp powers not possessed by the Imperial Parliament, and the committee submit that it is beyond the province, even of the Imperial Legislature, to enact a law which, in its operation, shall affect the personal independence and the liberty of individuals of any foreign nation. It follows, therefore, that to give the Imperial assent to this Bill, would be to violate that great principle of international law which forbids interference with the independence of the citizens of other States, and at the same time would be an infringement of the equally great constitutional principle, that laws made by a subordinate Government in virtue of the powers conferred by the supreme Legislature, must not be inconsistent with any law or rule of law made or sanctioned by it in relation to the same subject-matter.

Clause VII. strikes the committee as delusive. Whilst it is ordered that vessels shall be properly found in surgical instruments, medicines, and other things necessary for diseases or accidents incidental to sea voyages, no provision is made to supply a duly qualified medical practitioner to prescribe and use them. It is surely not employing too strong language to designate such legislation as delusive.

The eighth clause is objectionable in so many particulars that the committee do not feel it convenient to deal with them all; and, indeed, as the committee take exception to the Act itself as being illegal in principle, it seems superfluous to argue against it in detail. Nevertheless the committee would here record their chief objections to this clause.

In the first place it permits, by inference, certain things to be done, which are in themselves illegal; as for example the indenturing of the labourers in the South Sea Islands to employers in Queensland. This is opening the door to an endless amount of fraud, and is directly opposed to the principle established by the Imperial Government, for regulating the introduction of coloured labour into other Colonies.

In the second place, the committee object that agreements purporting to show that certain labourers have been indentured, before arrival in the Colony, or are to be indentured on arrival there, would be grossly illegal, and such a practice must inevitably lead to irregularities of the gravest description.

In the third place, as no authority is given by the Act "to recruit labourers in the South Sea Islands," and the license referred to in the clause is one "to recruit," not to import labourers, the master of the vessel cannot possibly comply with this self-contradictory regulation, for it is obvious that the form

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

and the clause are at issue. Furthermore, the committee deny emphatically the power of the Legislature of Queensland to make a law authorising persons to recruit labourers in foreign countries. Such a license is tantamount to issuing a roving commission to pick up natives wherever they can be found, and this without any previous treaty or negotiation with the insular authorities. This is not lawful immigration, but the illegal slave trade.

In the next place, the Government reserves to itself no power to interfere with the appointment of any recruiting agent, who, though he be duly licensed, may be a most unsuitable person, even of the worst character, over whose actions it would have no control. It is well known that a traffic such as the one it is proposed to legalise presents the greatest attractions to the most lawless characters, and if, therefore, it be legalised at all, the Government ought to exercise a direct control over these recruiting agents.

Fifthly, it appears to the committee highly objectionable to involve the missionaries in this traffic. Such a course is calculated to lead them into disputes with the natives, to destroy their influence as Christian teachers in the islands, and in the event of anything going wrong with the people imported into Queensland, to expose them to personal danger in revenge.

Clause IX. is open to the same objection as has been raised to the previous one, in so far as regards the facilities it affords for chicanery and oppression.

Clauses X. to XIV. inclusively, relate chiefly to matters of detail, and do not seem to call for comment. The same remark applies to Clauses XVI. to XXIII. inclusively.

The penalty imposed on masters of vessels by Clause XV., namely, of 500 *l.*, ostensibly to prevent kidnapping, is, in the judgment of the committee, utterly inadequate to prevent that crime. The money value of a South Sea Islander landed in Queensland averages 10 *l.*, which sum parties introducing them now actually receive. A cargo of 250, supposing it to be one of voluntary immigrants, would therefore realise 2,500 *l.*; but if a similar cargo were kidnapped, and the master convicted, the fine on the whole would be 500 *l.*, which, deducted from the value of the cargo in bulk, would still leave a profit large enough to encourage further enterprises of a like kind. The committee, however, would remind your Grace of the Imperial statute, which declares the kidnapping of negroes to be a capital offence, under the name of piracy, punishable with penal servitude and the forfeiture of the vessel, and the committee are utterly at a loss to conceive how that which constitutes piracy in the one instance can by any legislation be transformed into a lawful traffic in the other.

The foregoing remarks apply with increased force to Clause XXIV., inasmuch as kidnapping is one of the offences punishable under it, the maximum penalty for which is, for the first offence, 10 *l.*, and for every subsequent offence, 20 *l.*

The placing of engagements, by Clause XXV., under the Masters' and Servants' Act will afford very imperfect protection to the South Sea Island labourers, who, knowing nothing of the law, will seldom be able to seek redress under it, while their employers will have it in their power to use it as an engine of oppression.

Clause XXVI. will operate to make the traffic a close trade.

Clause XXVII. leaves open the question of providing hospital accommodation or medical treatment for the immigrants; an omission of the most serious character.

Clause XXVIII. appears to be framed with a benevolent intention, but no provision is made for carrying it into effect; and the same remark applies to Clause XXX., for it does not appear how the employer is to be prevented from violating it, if he be so disposed.

The immediate object of the committee in addressing your Grace is to bring these comments promptly under your notice, in the hope that you will be pleased to give them your best consideration; and the committee venture to believe that your Grace will find in them sufficiently strong reasons to justify you in disallowing this Act.

I have, &c.

On behalf of the Committee,

(signed) *L. A. Chamerovzow*,
Secretary.

— No. 8. —

COPY of a LETTER from *T. Frederick Elliot, Esq.*, to
L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

Sir,

Downing Street, 3 June 1868.

No. 8.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd of May,* and I am to request that you will acquaint the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society that the statements contained in your letter against the Act recently passed by the Legislature of Queensland, "To regulate and control the Introduction and Treatment of Polynesian Labourers," will receive consideration.

T. Frederick Elliot, Esq., to
L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.

3 June 1868.

* Page 56.

I am, &c.

(signed) *T. Frederick Elliot.*

— No. 9. —

COPY of a LETTER from *L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq.*, to his Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and Chandos.

No. 9.

L. A. Chamerovzow, Esq., to His
Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

6 June 1868.

My Lord Duke,

27, New Broad Street, E.C.,

6 June 1868.

I AM instructed by the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society to comply with the request made on behalf of your Grace, by Mr. Elliot, in his letter of the 27th ultimo,* namely, to be furnished with copies of the documents specified in the schedule annexed to my letter of the 27th of March† in support of the 3rd and 8th statements in my communication of the 13th of the same month.‡

* Page 55.

† Page 52.

‡ Page 50.

I have therefore the honour to forward herewith the documents mentioned in the schedule aforesaid, and am further instructed by the committee to request that your Grace will be pleased to give instructions that a receipt for the same be handed to bearer.

I have, &c.

(signed) *L. A. Chamerovzow, Secretary.*

Enclosures in No. 9.

1867.

Encl. in No. 9.

QUEENSLAND.—LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

INTRODUCTION OF SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS INTO QUEENSLAND.

(Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 15th October 1867.)

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of Queensland, dated 26th September 1867, praying that his Excellency the Governor will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the table of this house,—

Copy of all despatches and correspondence in connection with the introduction of South Sea Islanders into this Colony.—(*Dr. Challinor.*)

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Reference to previous papers on the same subject already before Parliament - - - -	60
2. The senior naval officer on the Australian station to his Excellency the Governor of Queensland, 25th April 1867 - - - -	60
3. Minute of the Executive Council of 3rd May 1867 - - - -	60
4. His Excellency the Governor to the senior naval officer, 28th May 1867 - - - -	61
5. Captain Whish to the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer, of 22nd May 1867 - - - -	62
6. The senior naval officer to his Excellency the Governor, 4th June 1867 - - - -	62
7. The Under Colonial Secretary to police magistrate, Brisbane, 5th July 1867 - - - -	63
8. The police magistrate, Brisbane, to the Under Colonial Secretary, 25th September 1867 - - - -	63

INTRODUCTION OF SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS INTO THE COLONY.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

(1.)

Previous papers on the subject of the importation of South Sea Islanders into Queensland will be found in "Votes and Proceedings," Session 2, 1863, page 397.

(2.)

The Senior Naval Officer on the Australian Station to His Excellency the Governor.

Sir,

H.M.S. "Esk," Sydney, 25 April 1867.

I HAVE lately received reports of the loss of several vessels, and the murder of several Europeans at Hinchinbroke and other islands of the New Hebrides group.

I enclose an extract from a letter written by a trader in that group, wherein you will see that he is informed the natives say that they are doing these atrocities in revenge for the loss of many of their countrymen, who were carried away three years ago to Queensland and the Fiji Islands, by Europeans who hired them as labourers, and promised to return them to their homes in 12 months.

The trader writes:—"I have been cautioned by several of the chiefs, and told to keep a good look-out, as the natives be determined to have revenge on the white man, as he had taken the men of the islands and agreed to bring them back in 12 months, which is over three years. This I know to be the case with parties in Queensland and Fiji Islands."

I have sent H.M.S. "Falcon" to visit the islands; she sailed to-day, and has orders to communicate with Consul Jones at Fiji, and request him to inform me if natives are conveyed from the New Hebrides to the Fiji group as labourers, if the trade is carried on by Europeans, and under what license and superintendence.

I have the honour to request that you will cause me to be supplied with information on the subject of the admission into Queensland of island natives.

What number actually arrive?

Where they come from?

What class of people engage them?

The length of time they are engaged for?

And what security the natives have that they will be restored to their homes when their engagements have expired?

And other information on the subject will be useful.

I know, from my own experience, that many of the vessels trading to the New Hebrides are manned by rough and very lawless men, who, finding themselves beyond the reach of any civilised power, behave towards the natives with injustice. Now that the New Zealand war is over, it is to be hoped that vessels of the squadron may be able frequently to visit the islands, and to see that the trade is carried on with justice, and according to law. In the hope that you may be able to afford me valuable information, which I can compare with the accounts brought back by H.M.S. "Falcon" on her return to Sydney, I trouble you with this communication, and

I have, &c.

(signed) J. P. Luce,
Captain and Senior Officer.

His Excellency Sir George Bowen, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Governor of Queensland.

(3.)

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Proceedings of the Executive Council of Queensland.

At the Government House, Brisbane, on 3rd May 1867,

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Governor in Council.

HIS Excellency the Governor lays before the Council a letter (dated 25th April 1867), addressed to his Excellency by Captain Luce, R.N., now commanding Her Majesty's naval forces on the Australian station.

This letter states Captain Luce had lately received reports of the loss of several vessels, and of the murder of several Europeans at certain of the South Sea Islands; and that it appears, from a letter written by a trader in those seas, that "the natives say that they are perpetrating these atrocities in revenge for the loss of many of their countrymen, who were carried away three years ago to Queensland and the Fiji Islands by Europeans, who hired them as labourers, and promised to return them to their homes in 12 months."

Captain Luce asks for information on the subject from the Government of Queensland.

The Council deliberate. They observe that the first and principal importer of South Sea Islanders as labourers into this Colony, is the Honourable Robert Towns, member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, and resident at Sydney, but the owner of a cotton plantation in Queensland. This gentleman can give Captain Luce more information on the subject than any other person; and they suggest that personal application should be made

to him. Moreover, it is believed that the small number of South Sea Islanders who have hitherto come to work in Queensland, on the new sugar and cotton plantations, have all been landed from ships belonging to Sydney.

The Council further observe that the Masters and Servants Act (25 Victoria, No. 11), now in force in Queensland, provides for the due enforcement on both parties of labour contracts, whether made in this Colony or in foreign countries. Should it be proved that further legislation is required for the due protection of the South Sea Islanders, the Council do not doubt but that the Colonial Parliament will be ready to pass any measure which facts and documents, hereafter to be laid before them, may show to be absolutely necessary.

It need scarcely be said that the responsible ministers are anxious to punish all fraud and injustice whenever committed, and to secure the inhabitants of the Colony, of every class, in the full enjoyment of their rights.

The Council advise that the proper Government officers be directed to procure the information respecting the number of South Sea Islanders now in Queensland, &c., as asked for by Captain Luce, R.N., and also that the police magistrate of the district be ordered to inspect periodically the plantations on which any such islanders may be employed, and to report to the Colonial Secretary the result of such inspection.

A. V. Drury, Clerk of the Council.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

(4.)

His Excellency the Governor to the Senior Naval Officer.

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland,
28 May 1867.

Sir,

I RECEIVED in due course your letter of the 25th ultimo, respecting the South Sea Islanders employed in Queensland.

2. You are, of course, already aware that the Governor of a Colony possessing Parliamentary Government is bound to act, in Colonial affairs, through his responsible advisers in the Executive Council. I accordingly took an early opportunity of laying your letter before my ministers; and I request your attention to the enclosed minute of Council, containing the views of the Government of Queensland on the entire subject.

3. I also transmit reports from the Collector of Customs of this Colony. It appears that in the aggregate only 332 South Sea Islanders have landed in Queensland, of which number 78 have returned to their homes. It is stated that those already sent back were under an engagement for one year only; and that most of the remainder are under engagements for three years, and will be provided with passages to their native islands when that period shall have expired.

4. The principal employers of these labourers are Captain Towns, of Sydney, and Captain Whish, formerly of the 14th Light Dragoons, and now the owner of a sugar plantation near Brisbane. As is pointed out in the enclosed minute, Captain Towns can give you more information on this question than any other person; you will probably make a direct application to that gentleman. I annex the reply of Captain Whish to the queries addressed to him by my ministers.

Minute of Council,
3 May 1867.

5. You are thus in possession of all the information which it has been in my power to procure for you here.

6. It will be seen from the minute of the Executive Council, that the Government of Queensland, in common with myself, "are anxious to punish all fraud and injustice whenever committed, and to secure the inhabitants of the Colony of every class in the full enjoyment of their rights;" and that, should it be proved that further legislation is required for the due protection of the South Sea Islanders, the Council do not doubt but that the Colonial Parliament will be ready to pass any measure which facts and documents hereafter to be laid before them may show to be absolutely necessary;" and that in the meantime, "the police magistrate of the district is ordered to inspect periodically the plantations on which any such islanders may be employed."

22 May 1867.

7. I have myself visited the plantations of Captain Towns and Captain Whish. The islanders employed there seemed to be healthy and contented, and they certainly made no complaints. You may rest assured that I shall not lose sight of this question. Should you visit Queensland yourself, I shall be glad if you will accompany me in a fresh inspection of the plantations referred to above.

I have &c.

(signed) G. F. Bowen.

Captain Luce, R.N.,
Senior Naval Officer, H.M.S. "Esk," Sydney.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

(5.)

Captain *Whish* to the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer.

Oaklands, Cabulture River,
22 May 1867.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, requesting information concerning certain South Sea Islanders in our employ, I have the honour to inform you that—

Thirty-three natives, all males, arrived on our plantation in December 1865.

The agreement between us is, that they serve us for three years, and are then to be restored to their homes.

Their pay is 10 s. a month, paid in kind, on their return home.

During their stay they are housed, fed, and clothed.

Besides this, they are supplied with pipes and tobacco, blankets, and pannikins, and are occasionally rewarded with beads, or allowed money to buy them.

They appear to be perfectly happy and contented, and have improved greatly in health and strength since their arrival in the country. One islander having died, there are 32 now on the plantation; and we have written to inquire about a fresh supply of them, as we wish to send our present hands home before the term of their agreement is out, that they may see, and tell their friends, that we are dealing fairly by them.

The more intelligent of the men are employed with horse teams, at the saw bench, in the sugar house, and on board the cutter, and these will, in the end, receive some additional remuneration according to their superior worth.

They all work cheerfully and well, indeed for some time past we have had no overseer over them, whereas with an equal number of Europeans an overseer would be indispensable.

The news of the massacre had reached us some time ago, and we know that natives are kidnapped to serve in the Fiji Islands; but the real cause of the massacre (and a most common one) appears not to have been put forward.

With the liability, however, to further disturbances, it might be to the interest of Government to undertake the supply, at cost price, of coloured labour suitable for sugar and cotton plantations; for, without some such importation, it is simply impossible for this country ever to rise from its present depressed state.

A rainy season, such as we have had for three or four months, would well nigh ruin a proprietor who had to keep a large gang of Europeans, who must be paid and fed, whether the weather allowed them to work or no. My experience in this matter has been dearly purchased: for 3½ years I employed white labour, and am perfectly convinced that it will never pay to cultivate cotton or sugar with white labour. We have had to import our own labour, and shall do so again as we require it. At the same time, if the Government is at all anxious for the development of the country, let them follow the example of the Mauritius and Natal Governments, and supply the coolies to the planters; the latter will do the rest; and a very few years will prove the wisdom of such a course, and show that enterprise must command success under a Government that will do its duty.

The Honourable the Colonial Treasurer.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. B. Whish.*

(6.)

The Senior Naval Officer to His Excellency the Governor.

Sir,

Her Majesty's Ship "Esk,"
Sydney, 4 June 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 28th May, and its enclosures, containing information concerning the South Sea Island natives employed in the Colony of Queensland.

I am greatly obliged for the above information, and am now well satisfied that the South Sea Island labour traffic to Queensland will continue to be carried on with justice, and will be of great benefit to the natives themselves.

Consul Jones, of the Fiji, has also, I am informed, laid down regulations, and taken measures to enforce them, for the labour traffic between the New Hebrides and the Fiji group.

Her Majesty's ship "Falcon" is now on a cruise to the islands, and has orders to investigate any complaints made, either by Europeans or natives, and also to request the assistance of the missionaries in investigating the circumstances attending the recent loss of vessels, and the reported murder of their crews at the Island of Hinchinbroke, New Hebrides.

The new Commodore will thus have a clear statement of the whole case of the island labour traffic; and if the report made by the Captain of the "Falcon" contains matter likely to be of interest to you, I will request that such information may be forwarded to you.

His Excellency
Sir George Bowen, G.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c.,
Governor of Queensland.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Luce,*
Captain and Senior Officer.

(7.)

The Under Colonial Secretary to the Police Magistrate, Brisbane.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Brisbane,
5 July 1867.

Sir,

REPRESENTATIONS having been made to the Government that much dissatisfaction prevails at some of the South Sea Islands at the protracted absence of many of the islanders who were induced to come to Queensland as labourers under promise of free return passages in 12 months, and this dissatisfaction having undoubtedly led to some, if not all, of the barbarous murders perpetrated upon Europeans visiting the South Sea Islands, I am directed to inform you that the Government deem it desirable to obtain information touching the condition and treatment of such islanders as may from time to time be brought to this Colony as labourers upon sugar or cotton plantations, and for this purpose it has been directed that the police magistrate of the district in which any such islanders may be employed shall periodically inspect all such plantations, and report to the Colonial Secretary the result of his observations touching the condition and treatment of the islanders. It is believed that, at the present moment, islanders will be found only on plantations in the Moreton Bay district, the principal ones being "Townsville," on the Logan, and "Redland Bay." To these plantations I am instructed to request you will make periodical visits, and, in terms of the Minute of Council, report fully to this office.

I have, &c.

(signed) Robert Gray,

For the Under Colonial Secretary.

The Police Magistrate, Brisbane.

(8.)

The Police Magistrate of Brisbane to the Under Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

Police Office, Brisbane, 25 September 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Government, that, in accordance with the instructions conveyed in your letter of 5th July ultimo, relative to the South Sea Islanders employed on various establishments within the district of Brisbane, I proceeded, on the 12th instant, to the cotton plantation of Captain Towns, on the Logan River Reserve, where the description of labour referred to has been largely introduced.

2. Annexed to this report will be found the information given in the form of questions and answers by Captain Towns' present manager on the plantation, Mr. Walker, together with a return furnished me by that gentleman, showing—

The number of islanders brought into the country by Captain Towns, from the 18th August 1863 to the present time.

The number of those returned to their respective islands in the same period.

The deaths that have taken place. And—

The number at present on the plantation; with other particulars.

3. It appears that, in the period named, 299 islanders have been introduced by Captain Towns, of whom 77 have been returned to their homes, 10 have been forwarded to Cleveland Bay, and 14 have died; leaving 198 at present employed on the plantation.

4. Of the whole number brought to this country (299), 67 only appear to have been engaged for 12 months, and to have been returned at the expiration of their agreement, namely, those who arrived in 1863 by the "Don Juan."

5. The rest have been engaged for a term of three years from the date of arrival.

6. Of the total number (134) brought here in 1864 by the "Uncle Tom," only 104 are left on the plantation; 10 have been returned; 10 have died; and 10 have been sent to Cleveland Bay, of whom no information could be given me by Mr. Walker.

7. The agreement of the first lot imported by the "Uncle Tom," in 1864, expired on the 8th June last; but up to the present time, of this number (54) 10 only, referred to in the preceding paragraph, have been allowed to return home.

8. The reason given by Mr. Walker for detaining these men beyond the time for which they had agreed to remain (which will be found in the answers to questions Nos. 10 and 11) is by no means satisfactory. The necessity of keeping faith with this peculiar race of people is too obvious to need any comment, and any breach of it may be attended with very serious consequences elsewhere.

9. The agreement of the second lot brought out by the "Uncle Tom" will not expire until 28th November 1867; but according to Mr. Walker's statement, a direct promise has been made to those men that they shall return in the present month with those whose agreement expired on the 8th June last. (*Answers to Questions 12, 13.*)

10. This promise should be strictly adhered to, and must be presumed to be made with Captain Towns' sanction.

11. Fourteen deaths are reported to have taken place out of the number brought to this country between 18th August 1863 and 16th September 1867 (299).

12. Of this number, three occurred on board ship after arrival in Moreton Bay; the other 11 deaths took place on the Logan River Plantation.

13. No magisterial inquiry has been held in any one case.

O.90.

H 4

14. As

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

14. As the plantation, where so many of these islanders are employed, does not appear to be visited periodically, or even occasionally, by any medical man (*Question 24*), it would seem more necessary, than under ordinary circumstances, to have every death that occurs amongst them made the subject of a proper inquiry.

15. There are, at least, three magistrates within a short distance of the plantation, to either of whom, in the event of a death taking place, application could readily be made.

16. I have only to add, that so far as can be judged from the manner and appearance of the islanders themselves, they are well cared for, and are amply supplied with wholesome food for maintaining their health and physical condition.

I have, &c.
H. H. Massie.

12 September 1867.

INFORMATION of Mr. *Walker*, Manager of the Logan River Reserve Cotton Plantation, respecting the South Sea Islanders employed in the Establishment.

1. You are manager for Captain Towns, the owner of the plantation?—Yes.

2. How long have you had charge of the establishment?—About two years and three months.

3. Were any South Sea Islanders employed on the plantation before you took charge of it?—Yes. I see by a Custom House return, that 67 islanders were introduced in 1863, and were returned in 1864. These were the first that were employed, and their term of agreement was only 12 months.

4. When you took charge of the establishment, how many islanders were employed?—114 (one hundred and fourteen). (*See Appendix.*)

5. What was the name of the ship by which they arrived, and the date of their arrival?—Fifty-four were brought by the “Uncle Tom,” on 8th June 1864, and 80 by the same ship, 28th November 1864.

6. Have you got a copy of the agreement made with these men at the time they were engaged?—No; I have no duplicate in my possession. I believe Captain Towns has the original.

7. What was the term of their agreement?—Three years from the date of their arrival.

8. Then the term of service of the 54, who arrived on the 8th June 1864, has expired?—Yes.

9. Have they been returned since the expiration of their service to their respective homes, and, if so, by what ship?—Of the whole number (134), introduced by the “Uncle Tom,” in 1864, ten only have been returned up to the present time; one returned by the “Uncle Tom” after her first trip in June 1864; seven Murray men were sent back in September 1866, by the “Speck,” Daly, master; and (2) two more (one a Tanna man, the other a Sandwich man), were sent back in May or June 1867, by the “King Oscar.”

10. Can you give any reason why these men were kept beyond the time for which they had agreed to remain?—The only opportunity that occurred of sending them back was by the “King Oscar,” this month. They seemed unwilling to go back by her. It was explained to them that if they were willing to remain a little longer, they might all return together, that is, both lots brought here by the “Uncle Tom,” in 1864.

11. Were they satisfied with this arrangement; was it their own wish to remain?—Yes, I believe so. I dare say they would be glad to get home, but they seemed unwilling to go by the “King Oscar.”

12. Have any arrangements been made for sending them home at once?—Captain Towns went down to engage a vessel in Sydney for that purpose. I believe she is on her way up now. As soon as she arrives, they will all be sent back to their respective islands at once.

13. That is, the men whose agreement expired in June last, and the rest whose agreement has still to run to 28th November proximo?—Yes; both lots will be sent home together as soon as Captain Towns’ ship arrives.

14. What are the names of the islands to which they belong respectively?—Ysissy men, 14; Tanna men, 52; My men, 18; Sandwich men, 20; total 104.

15. Since you took charge of the establishment, what number of islanders have been introduced?—Ninety-eight; of this number, 63 came by the “Speck,” Daly, master, in September 1866, and 35 by the “King Oscar,” in August 1867.

16. Have you got a copy of the agreement made with these men?—No; but in each case the term of agreement was three years from the date of arrival.

17. Previous to your taking charge of the establishment, are you aware how many deaths occurred?—I cannot state positively; I know there were several; I think I might be able to ascertain. (*See Appendix.*)

18. Is any proper record kept of the arrivals, departures, deaths, casualties, and other particulars connected with the islanders that are employed on the establishment?—No; but I think it desirable that some such record should be kept.

19. How many deaths have taken place since you have been in charge yourself?—Six in all.

20. Can you give me the particulars in each case?—Two out of the six deaths have occurred among the late arrivals by the “King Oscar.” One died on the 19th August

1867,

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

1867, from diarrhoea, the other on the 2nd September, from bronchitis and lung disease; I cannot give the particulars of the other deaths.

21. Has any magistrate ever been applied to to hold an inquiry?—No; not in my time.

22. Have the deaths in each case been registered at the nearest registry office?—Printed forms of returns have always been made to the head office in Brisbane.

23. Is the establishment ever visited or inspected periodically by any medical man?—No; I have a supply of medicines, and I treat the cases as they occur myself.

24. Has a medical man ever been sent for on any special occasion?—No; two men were sent to the Brisbane hospital for treatment, and they came back.

25. What is the general state of health of the islanders on the establishment?—Very good indeed; they are remarkably healthy.

26. What is the prevailing form of sickness amongst them?—Affection of the lungs, with occasional slight ailments, such as sick head-ache, proceeding from derangement of the stomach.

27. Has the establishment been visited by any minister of religion?—Two visits have been made by Roman Catholic clergymen. Each visit was made on a Sunday, and Divine service was performed.

28. Have the islanders any form of worship amongst themselves; do they observe the Sabbath?—No; they keep the Sunday, but only as a holiday.

29. What is the state of education amongst them; can any of them read or write?—Those on the plantation at present are wholly uneducated.

30. Has any immorality ever been observed amongst them?—No; I never had the slightest reason to suspect that any such existed amongst them.

31. Have any of them formed connections with European or native women?—No; they seem to have a special contempt for the aboriginal population of this country. They never associate with them at all.

32. What is the general nature of the services performed by the islanders?—They are principally employed as field labourers in the cultivation of cotton. About 15 of them have been taught since they came on the plantation to drive bullocks and horses, to split shingles and fencing stuff, and to act as stockmen, but there are none of them very skillful.

33. Are they generally intelligent, docile, and willing, in the performance of any duties required of them?—Very few of them show much intelligence on their first arrival; they are very slow, and require a deal of teaching, but they are exceedingly tractable, and very willing to do all they are asked to do.

34. If they are idle and negligent, or refuse to work, how are they dealt with?—We stop their tobacco, and on some occasions make them change their quarters from one part of the plantation to another. They seem to have a great dislike to be separated from those with whom they have been in the habit of associating, but it is generally sufficient to threaten them with this; the threat is very seldom carried out.

35. Have you any white overseers under you?—Yes; two at present; but they only see that any orders that are given generally are carried out. They have no special authority; if they have any complaints to make, they must report them to me. No islander is ever allowed to be struck or beaten. Personal ill-treatment of any kind is strictly forbidden.

36. Are there any native overseers; and if so, what is the nature and extent of their authority?—They generally look up to some one of their own number appointed by themselves as head man. He is generally the mouth-piece, and instructions are given through him to the rest of the gang under him; but he has no authority over the others from me.

37. Is there any interpreter who can thoroughly understand and explain their grievances or grounds of complaint if any such should arise?—There is no regular interpreter; but after they have been here some time, most of them can speak pretty good English. The Sandwich men can generally speak good English on their arrival.

38. Have they ever expressed a wish to make their complaint to a magistrate, or missionary, or some person whom they suppose to have authority independent of their employers?—No, never.

39. Have you ever had any experience yourself in the management of South Sea Islanders before you had charge of this plantation?—No.

40. What European labour do you employ on the establishment?—Is there any jealousy or ill-feeling between the two races?—There are about 20 Europeans employed, principally as mechanics, engineers, and skilled labourers. Some of them have wives and families. There never has been the slightest disagreement between them and the islanders.

41. What are the working hours observed on the establishment?—From six in the morning to six o'clock in the evening. During that time they are allowed one hour for breakfast, and two hours for dinner, in the summer; and one hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner in winter. That is the regular allowance, but in the hot weather they have in addition, occasional short intervals of rest.

42. What is the scale of diet?—One and a-half pound maize meal, or an equivalent in rice, one pound fresh beef, and one quarter pound of molasses, per diem for each man. They have also an allowance of one fig of tobacco for each man per week. They are also allowed, whenever they are to be obtained, sweet potatoes, pumpkins, and melons, in season. They have all permission to cultivate as much ground as they please for the production of sweet potatoes and pumpkins, though very few of them avail themselves of the permission. Any amongst them that are sick are allowed tea and sugar, and other indulgences. The corn is ground by a mill on the premises, and is of the best quality. Maize meal has been served out the last six months; before that rice was generally served out.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.

43. How are the rations served out, weekly or daily?—The hands are divided into messes, from 20 to 40 in each. Each mess appoints one of their own number as cook. Each cook draws every morning the daily allowance of the men that belong to their gang. He is engaged in no other work. They divide their rations into three meals per diem.

44. What is the accommodation provided for the housing of the hands employed?—Quarters are provided for the different gangs, numbering from 15 to 30 in each. Each man has his own hammock or bunk, with a sufficient allowance of blankets.

45. What is the clothing supplied?—There is no specified quantity. Articles of clothing, consisting of shirts, trousers, and woollen caps, are supplied as they are wanted. No charge is made for the clothing that is served out. It is not deducted from their wages.

46. What is the rate of wages for each man?—Ten shillings a month. They are entitled to these wages in full when they have served the full period for which they have agreed. No deduction is made for extra clothing or provisions.

47. Since you have had the management of the establishment, only 10 men have had their discharge. How were they paid?—By their own wish they had articles of trade given them in lieu of money, viz., saws, hammers, nails, &c. They had more than the value of their money in these goods.

48. On looking back to your former answers, I find that out of 134 islanders brought by the "Uncle Tom," in 1864, 114 only were on the plantation when you took charge of it. What became of the rest?—The whole number brought in two trips of the "Uncle Tom" was 134. Of this number 10 were sent to Cleveland Bay. Ten have been returned home; and 10 have died. Of the original number only 104 are now left on the plantation.

49. Can you give me any account of the 10 who were sent to Cleveland Bay?—No; they were sent before I came here.

50. Will you be good enough to furnish me with a return, giving me all the particulars you can ascertain respecting the islanders, from their first introduction to the present time?—Yes. I can make out a report of such particulars as I know. (*This return is the Appendix marked A.*)

APPENDIX A.

MEMORANDUM.

South Sea Islanders Employed on Townsvale Cotton Plantation.

Received, August 18th 1863, per "Don Juan"	-	-	-	67	
Returned, 1864	-	-	-	67	
Received, June 8th, 1864, per "Uncle Tom"	-	-	-	54	
„ November 28th, „	-	-	-	80	
				134	
Returned, 1864	-	-	-	1	
„ 1866	-	-	-	7	
„ 1867	-	-	-	2	
				10	
1864, Deaths on board ship in bay	-	-	-	3	
1864, On plantation	-	-	-	5	
1865, „	-	-	-	1	
1866, „	-	-	-	1	
				10	
To be returned in all this month, September 1867	-	-	-	114	
				134	
At Cleveland Bay	-	-	-	10	
On the Plantations	-	-	-	104	
				114	104
Received, September 27th, 1866, per "Spec"	-	-	-	63	
Deaths, 1866	-	-	-	2	
					61
September 16th, 1867, per "King Oscar"	-	-	-	35	
Deaths, 1867	-	-	-	2	
					33
TOTAL now on the Plantations	-	-	-		198

TRADE BETWEEN QUEENSLAND AND SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

(Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 15th October 1867.)

RETURN to an Order made by the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of Queensland, dated 9th October 1867, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a Return showing:—

“(1.) The Number, Names, and Registered Tonnage of all Vessels engaged in trading between the several Ports of this Colony and the South Sea Islands, from 10 December 1859, to the present time.

“(2.) The Names of the Owners, Masters, and Consignees of said Vessels; also, the Names of the Persons by whom the same were Chartered.

“(3.) The Date of Arrival and Departure of each Vessel respectively, and the Entries of the Cargo Inwards and Outwards.

“(4.) The Number of South Sea Islanders brought by each Vessel; the Names of the Persons by whom they were brought, and of those to whom they were Consigned; also the Date of their Arrival.

“(5.) The Number of South Sea Islanders who have been returned to their Homes in the said Vessels; the Date of their Departure; and the Names of Persons in whose Charge they were sent.

“(6.) A Copy of the Government Regulations under which this Immigration has been Conducted.”—(*Dr. Challinor.*)

RETURN showing the Number of SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS who have ARRIVED at the PORT of BRISBANE, from the 10th December 1859, to the present time, 10th October 1867, and other information on this subject, as moved for in the Legislative Assembly by Dr. Challinor, as can be supplied by the Customs Department.

Date of Arrival.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Owners.	Masters.	Names of Persons whom Chartered.	Number of Passengers.		Names of Persons whom brought.	Consignees.	Cargo.
						Natives.	Whites.			
18 November - 1861	Coquette	72	Unknown	A. Coutts-	Unknown	-	-	Unknown	Captain, agent	Ballast.
18 August - 1863	Don Juan	130	ditto	Grueber	ditto	67	-	ditto	R. Towns & Co.	ditto.
8 July - 1864	Uncle Tom	166	ditto	Leonard	ditto	54	-	ditto	ditto	30 tons yams.
28 November - 1864	ditto	166	ditto	Smith	ditto	80	-	ditto	W. H. Palmer & Co.	Sundries.
15 December - 1865	Black Dog	142	ditto	Linklater	ditto	118	-	ditto	Alexander & Armour	Ballast.
11 June - 1866	Mary Ida	16	ditto	Mollet	ditto	-	-	ditto	Captain, agent	7,000 coconuts.
27 September - 1866	Spec	161	ditto	J. Daly	ditto	63	-	ditto	O'Reilly & Pritchard	Ballast.
16 August - 1867	King Oscar	248	ditto	Gibbins	ditto	225	-	ditto	Bright, Brothers	Sundries.
18 September - 1867	Courier	34	ditto	Webster	ditto	-	6	ditto	Orr & Honeyman	18 tons guano.
Total						607	-	-	-	-

RETURN showing the Number of SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS who have DEPARTED from the Port of BRISBANE, from the 10th December 1859, to the present time, 10th October 1867, and other information on this subject, as moved for in the Legislative Assembly by Dr. Challinor, as can be supplied by the Customs Department.

Date of Arrival.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Owners.	Masters.	Names of Persons by whom Chartered.	Number of Passengers.		Names of Persons in Charge.	Consignees.	Cargo.
						Natives.	Whites.			
15 April - 1863	Cæsar Goddefroy	428	Unknown	Fruchtnich	Unknown	-	1	Unknown	Turner & Higginson	Part of original from Hamburg.
17 August - 1863	Alster	346	ditto	Hansen	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	- ditto.
12 September - 1864	Uncle Tom	166	ditto	Smith	ditto	70	1	ditto	-	-
21 August - 1865	Helene	366	ditto	Hennings	ditto	-	-	ditto	Hensler & Co.	Part of original from Sydney.
6 October - 1866	Spec	161	ditto	J. Daly	ditto	7	-	ditto	O'Reilly & Pritchard	Part of original from Hamburg.
11 September - 1867	King Oscar	248	ditto	Gibbins	ditto	9	3	ditto	Bright, Brothers	Original from Sydney.
1 October - 1867	Courier	34	ditto	Webster	ditto	-	3	ditto	Orr & Honeyman	General cargo.
7 October - 1867	Heather Bell	188	ditto	Brown	ditto	115	2	ditto	O'Reilly & Pritchard	Sundries.
TOTAL						201	10			

RETURN showing the Number of SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS who have ARRIVED at the NORTHERN PORTS of QUEENSLAND, from the 10th December 1859, to the present time, 10th October 1867, and other information on this subject, as moved for in the Legislative Assembly by Dr. Challinor, as can be supplied by the Customs Department.

Date of Arrival.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Owners.	Masters.	Name of Person by whom Chartered.	Number of South Sea Islanders.	Names of Persons by whom brought.	Consignees.	Cargo.
ROCKHAMPTON:									
4 September - 1867	City of Melbourne	177	Not known	Weiss	Not known	26	Not known	-	7 packages sundries.
BOWEN:									
16 June - 1865	Telegraph	20	ditto	W. Banner	ditto	30	Not known	-	Ballast.
29 September - 1866	Percy	34	ditto	T. Harris	ditto	50	ditto	-	- ditto.
8 July - 1867	Fanny Nicholson	285	ditto	G. Carphim	ditto	201	ditto	-	- ditto.
MACKAY:									
13 May - 1867	Prima Donna	85	ditto	Cook	ditto	70	Not known	-	Sawn timber.

RETURN showing the Number of SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS, who have DEPARTED from the NORTHERN PORTS of QUEENSLAND, from the 10th December 1859, to the present time, 10th October 1867, and other information on the subject, as moved for in the Legislative Assembly by Dr. Challinor, as can be supplied by the Customs Department.

Date of Arrival.	Vessel.	Tonnage.	Owner.	Master.	Name of Person by whom Chartered.	Number of South Sea Islanders.	Name of Person in Charge.	Consignee.	Cargo.
ROCKHAMPTON:									
24 September - 1867	City of Melbourne -	177	Not known -	Weiss -	Not known -	Nil -	Not known -	- - - - -	Part of original, and 30 head of cattle.
(signed)									William Thornton, Collector of Customs.

— No. 10. —

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and British
and Foreign Anti-
Slavery Society.COPY of a LETTER from the Right Honourable *C. B. Adderley*, M.P.,
to *L. A. Chamerovzow*, Esq.

No. 10.

Right Hon. *C. B.*
Adderley, Esq.,
M.P., to *L. A.*
Chamerovzow,
Esq.

19 June 1868.

* Page 59.

Sir,

Downing Street, 19 June 1868.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 6th instant,* enclosing copies of the authorities on which you ground the third and eighth statements in your previous letter of the 13th March, on the subject of the introduction of South Sea Islanders into Queensland.

The third statement was that considerable numbers of South Sea Islanders had been "kidnapped and forcibly brought into the Colony." The eighth was, "That persons occupying responsible public positions are engaged also in this traffic."

His Grace finds in the papers before him no ground for the allegation that the islanders or any of them had been kidnapped for the purpose of being sent to Queensland, or that persons occupying responsible public positions are engaged in this traffic. His Grace observes that the charges rest wholly on statements made by a person not named to Captain Luce, of Her Majesty's ship "Esk," who, on receiving authentic information from Queensland, withdraws those charges, and expresses his opinion that "the South Sea Island labour traffic to Queensland will continue to be carried on with justice, and will be of great benefit to the natives themselves."

You also stated "that although promises were held out to these people that they should be restored to their homes within a given term, none have been sent back from the northern ports, and only 201 from Brisbane;" leaving it to be inferred that a large number of such promises had been made and had not been kept.

With regard to this charge, it appears, from the authorities adduced by you, that on 25th September 1867, there were on Captain Towns' plantation 198 islanders, of whom 54 had become entitled to return home on the 8th of the previous June, but had been unwilling to avail themselves of the opportunity which then offered. It was then alleged that their employer intended to send them home with another party of islanders, whose term of engagement was shortly to expire; and it appears in fact that 115 natives did leave Brisbane in October 1867.

These being the facts, as alleged in the very papers tendered in support of the charges, his Grace cannot but express his extreme surprise that such charges should ever have been made.

His Grace desires me to add that the subject is receiving, and will continue to receive, the careful attention of Her Majesty's Government.

The enclosures to your letter now under acknowledgment will shortly be returned to you.

I am, &c.
(signed) *C. B. Adderley*.

Correspondence
between Colonial
Office and Aborigines
Protection
Society.

Correspondence between the Colonial Office and the Aborigines Protection Society.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.

Lord Alfred
Churchill, M.P., to
his Grace the
Duke of Bucking-
ham and Chandos.
25 March 1868.

COPY of a LETTER from Lord *Alfred Churchill*, M.P., to His Grace the Duke
of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

16, Rutland-gate, S. W.,
25 March 1868.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a memorial adopted by the committee of the Aborigines Protection Society, in which it is stated it has been the custom of certain British subjects in Queensland, to prosecute a traffic in native South Sea Islanders; that it appears no proper precautions have been adopted by the Government of the Colony to regulate this traffic, and that the natives of these islands state that the atrocities they have recently committed upon Europeans has been done in revenge for the loss of many of their countrymen, who were carried away three years ago to Queensland, by Europeans, who hired them as labourers, and who promised to return them to their homes in 12 months.

The memorial also prays that your Grace may for the future withhold your sanction from the traffic in any form.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Alfred S. Churchill*.

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
to Her

Majesty's Secretary of State for Colonies.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Encl. in No. 1.

To His Grace the Duke of Buckingham, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for
the Colonies.

ON behalf of the committee of the Aborigines Protection Society we desire respectfully to call your Grace's attention to the traffic in native South Sea Islanders, which has been prosecuted for several years past by certain British subjects in the Colony of Queensland.

The traffic has existed wholly without the sanction of the law, for an Act of the Colonial Legislature, authorising Coolie immigration from India, cannot possibly be made to legalise a traffic which is carried on with countries beyond British jurisdiction, and which is manifestly open to so many grave abuses. The same objection which proved fatal to the so-called immigration of negroes from the Coast of Africa applies with equal and irresistible force to the exportation of South Sea Islanders.

Even if this plea of illegality broke down, it yet appears that the Government of Queensland took no steps whatever to subject this species of imported labour to the regulations which the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch had rendered obligatory in regard to Coolies. It is true that the traffic scarcely admitted of regulation in the islands themselves, but it might easily have been placed under proper official control in the ports and plantations of Queensland. That such control was not exercised, is greatly to be deplored.

We greatly fear that an intimate relation will be found to subsist between this traffic and certain painful events which took place in 1865. In that year Commodore Sir William Wiseman destroyed several villages in the New Hebrides, in retaliation for outrages alleged to have been committed by natives on the persons of British seamen. Our impression that such a connection exists, is confirmed by a letter addressed by Captain J. P. Luce, of Her Majesty's Ship "Esk," to Sir George Bowen, Governor of Queensland, and dated Sydney, 25th April 1867. Captain Luce writes:—

"I have lately received reports of the loss of several vessels and the murder of several Europeans at Hinchinbroke, and other islands of the New Hebrides group. I enclose an extract from a letter written by a trader in that group, wherein you will see that he is informed, the natives say, that they are doing these atrocities in revenge for the loss of many of their
countrymen

countrymen who were carried away three years ago to Queensland and the Fiji Islands, by Europeans, who hired them as labourers, and promised to return them to their homes in 12 months. The trader writes, 'I have been cautioned by several of the chiefs, and told to keep a good look-out, as the natives are determined to have revenge on the white man, as he had taken the men of the islands, and agreed to bring them back in 12 months, which is over three years. This I know to be the case with parties in Queensland and Fiji Islands.'

The gallant officer then puts some pertinent inquiries with reference to the introduction of natives from the New Hebrides into the Colony of Queensland, and adds:—

"I know from my own experience that many of the vessels trading to the New Hebrides are manned by rough and very lawless men, who, finding themselves beyond the reach of any civilised power, behave towards the natives with injustice. Now that the New Zealand war is over, it is to be hoped that vessels of the squadron may be able frequently to visit the islands, and to see that the trade is carried on with justice, and according to law."

We understand that a Bill for the regulation of the traffic is now before the Queensland Legislature. We venture to submit that this step is taken too late. The system has already produced strife and bloodshed in the South Sea Islands, and if persisted in will probably entail still greater evils in time to come. We believe that no regulations that may hereafter be established will be efficacious in allaying the distrust which has already been excited among the natives, or in preventing great abuses from taking place in the islands from which the labourers are obtained. We therefore venture to hope that a consideration of all facts now submitted to your Grace, will induce Her Majesty's Government to withhold its sanction from the traffic in any form.

We have, &c.
(signed) *Alfred S. Churchill*, Vice President.
W. M. Torrens, M.P.
Richard Norton, Treasurer.
F. W. Chesson, Secretary.

65, Fleet-street, 23 March 1868.

— No. 2. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to Lord *Alfred Churchill*, M.P.

No. 2.

Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to
Lord *Alfred Churchill*, M.P.
27 April 1868.

My Lord,

Downing-street, 27 April 1868.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, forwarding a memorial adopted by a committee of the Aborigines Protection Society on the subject of the introduction into Queensland, of South Sea Islanders as labourers.

I am desired by his Grace to state that the question is now under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers*.

Other Correspondence.

Other
Correspondence.

— No. 1. —

COPY of a LETTER from the Right Honourable Sir *John Trollope*, Bart., M.P., to the Right Honourable the Secretary for the Colonies.

No. 1.

The Right Hon.
Sir *John Trollope*,
M.P., to the Right
Hon. the Secretary
for the Colonies.
14 April 1868.

Sir,

Casewick, Stamford, 14 April 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you an inquiry by the father of a seaman of the "Mary Ida," of Sydney, supposed to have been murdered, with others of the crew of that vessel, by natives of one of the South Sea Islands; and H.M.S. "Curaçoa" having been required to investigate the circumstances, your office or the Admiralty may be in possession of the facts of the case, and

o.go.

I 4

if

Other Correspondence.

if so, you will have the goodness to communicate them to the memorialist, whose statement I enclose, the father of one of the men supposed to have been murdered.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Trollope*, M.P. County Lincoln.

The Right honourable
The Secretary for the Colonies.

Encl. in No. 1.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Right honourable Sir,

Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire,
27 March 1868.

I RESPECTFULLY beg to state that in consequence of not having heard any further particulars relating to the fate of the schooner "Mary Ida" of Sydney, Unthank, master; the vessel on board which my son, John Percy, William Unthank, the owners, and Henry Collins, was murdered by the natives of Sandwich Island; I again humbly beg to request you will be so kind as to cause enquiry to be made at the Colonial Secretary's Office, or at any other department, to know the result of the investigation, if any, made by the commander of H.M.S. "Curagoa," which was said had been sent on to investigate the affair, and to know if any of the property have been recovered from the chief of that island. I also beg to state, before leaving Sydney, the owners purchased goods to the value of about 500 £, on purpose for trading at the South Sea Islands, sold at New Caledonia goods to the amount of about 300 £, and then proceeded to the Sandwich Island with the remainder of cargo; also I wish to know if the vessel has been sold, with her stores, &c., which was recaptured by Mr. Havinden, and taken to Pueblo, New Caledonia, and left in charge of Mr. Henry.

Trusting you will excuse my freedom, not deeming it necessary to forward the above through the favour of Mr. W. Skelton, as you kindly offered to forward any other enquiry into this unhappy event.

Right Hon. Sir John Trollope, Bart., M.P.

I am, &c.
(signed) *E. Percy*.

— No. 2. —

No. 2.
T. Frederick
Elliot, Esq., to
Mr. E. Percy.
29 May 1868.

COPY of a LETTER from *T. Frederick Elliot*, Esq., to Mr. *E. Percy*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 May 1868.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to inform you that your letter of 27th March addressed to Sir John Trollope was forwarded by him to this Department, and that inquiry has been made by his Grace's desire at the Office of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, whether any further information had been received respecting the plunder of the "Mary Ida" of Sydney, and the murder of the crew by the natives of the New Hebrides.

It appears that the Admiralty have no information beyond what has been already communicated to you, except that stated in a postscript to a report of Commander Blake, dated 4th August 1867, to the effect that the money taken out of the "Mary Ida," to the value of 18 £. 7 s. 9 ½ d., recovered from the Chief of Emel Island, is retained by that officer for the purpose of being delivered over to your agent and to the agent of Mr. Unthank at Sydney.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Frederick Elliot*.

A P P E N D I X .

QUEENSLAND.

ANNO TRICESIMO PRIMO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. 47.

AN ACT to Regulate and Control the Introduction and Treatment of POLYNESIAN LABOURERS.

WHEREAS many persons have deemed it desirable and necessary, in order to enable them to carry on their operations in tropical and semi-tropical agriculture, to introduce to the colony Polynesian labourers: And whereas it is necessary for the prevention of abuses and for securing to the labourers proper treatment and protection, as well as for securing to the employer the due fulfilment by the immigrant of his agreement, that an Act should be passed for the control of such immigration; Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Queensland in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. It shall not be lawful for any person or persons to introduce any Polynesian labourers into the Colony of Queensland, unless and except in accordance with the regulations contained in this Act and the forms thereunto attached. Preamble.
Not lawful to introduce Polynesian labourers, except according to regulations.
2. Within four months from the passing of this Act all persons who have in their employment any Polynesian labourers shall make a return to the Immigration Agent or other authorised agent of all such labourers in their employment, setting forth the number and names of such labourers, the nature and duration of their agreements, together with all such particulars as may be required. Present employers to make returns within four months from passing of Act.
3. Any person employing any Polynesian labourers, who shall fail to make a return as required by the foregoing clause, shall, on conviction of the same before any two justices of the peace, be subject to a penalty not exceeding 50 £. Penalty for failure in making returns.
4. The provisions of this Act shall, so far as practicable, be applied to all Polynesian labourers introduced into this Colony before the passing of this Act, and to their employers. Act to apply to employers and labourers at time of passing.
5. The Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, shall appoint from time to time such person or persons as shall be found requisite for the proper inspection of the said Polynesian labourers and enforcing the provisions of this Act. Inspectors to be appointed.
6. All persons desirous of importing labourers from the South Sea Islands shall make application to the Colonial Secretary at Brisbane, in the Form (A.) appended hereto, stating the number required and how they are to be employed; such application to be accompanied by a bond in Form (K.), signed by applicant and two sureties, to secure the return of the labourers to their native islands at the expiration of three years or 39 moons from date of arrival. A license in Form (C.) may then be issued, authorising the applicant to import the number required. Form of application.
7. The owner or charterer of any vessel so licensed shall provide for the use of the passengers a supply of medicines, medical comforts, instruments, and other things proper and necessary for diseases and accidents incident to sea voyage, and for the medical treatment of the passengers during the voyage, including an adequate supply of disinfecting fluid or agent, together with printed or written directions for the use of the same respectively; and such medicines, medical comforts, instruments, and other things, shall, in the judgment of the emigration officer at the port of clearance, be good in quality and sufficient in quantity for the probable exigencies of the intended voyage, and shall be properly packed and placed under the charge of the medical practitioner, when there is one on board, to be used at his discretion. In case of non-compliance with any of the requirements of this section, the master of the ship shall for each offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding 50 £. nor less than 5 £. sterling. Vessel to be properly found.
Penalty.
8. The master of any vessel arriving with Polynesian labourers shall be bound to report, on arrival at any of the ports of Queensland, the number of such labourers and the names of the employers to whom they have been or are to be indentured, and shall not be permitted to land any of the immigrants until he has received the certificate, Form (L.), of the Immigration Officer. Master of vessel to report arrival, &c.

gration Agent or other officer of the Government empowered to grant same, that the following regulations have been complied with:—

Master of vessel to produce certificate.

(1). The production by the master of the vessel of a certificate in Form (I.), or certificate signed by a consul, missionary, or other known person, that the labourers have voluntarily engaged themselves, and entered into their agreements with a full knowledge and understanding of the nature and conditions of same, and that when they were embarked they were not known to be afflicted with any disease, and were neither maimed, halt, blind, deaf, dumb, idiotic, or insane.

Employers to produce certificate of Immigration Agent.

(2). The production by the employers or parties to whom the labourers are or are intended to be indentured of the certificate in Form (C.) authorising them to recruit.

Immigrants to understand the nature of their agreements.

(3). That proper means have been taken, since the arrival of the ship, by the Immigration Agent or other officer, by explanations, questions, and inquiries, amongst the labourers themselves, to ascertain whether they have a proper understanding of the conditions of the agreements, and did voluntarily enter into same. That the agreements have been signed in the form prescribed, and the employers bound to observe the rules laid down for the treatment and management of the labourers.

Agreements to be completed on board ship, where practicable.

9. All agreements Form (D.), shall be completed on board the ship, if possible, and the immigrants taken from same by their employers; and should there arise a necessity for taking any of the labourers to the immigration dépôt, their maintenance there shall in all cases be borne by the employer.

Immigrants to be registered on arrival.

10. The arrival of the immigrants shall be registered in the Immigration Office, Brisbane, or at the Custom House in any other port; and, in the latter case, a copy of the register shall be forwarded by the Customs officer to the Immigration Office by following mail.

Scale of rations.

11. The scale of rations and wages shown in Form (G.), and printed on the form of agreement, shall in no case be deviated from.

Register to be kept by employer.

12. A register of hired Polynesian labourers shall be kept by each employer, in Form (E.), which shall be open for the inspection of any magistrate, or other person appointed by Government for the purpose, who shall record his visit therein. No entry, except the state of muster at the expiration of each quarter, shall be made in the register of the employer, unless from a document of hiring, transfer, death, or desertion, countersigned by the Immigration Agent or other authorised officer.

Transfers, how made.

13. No transfer of an immigrant shall be made except with the full consent of the transferor, the immigrant, and the Government, in Form (F.); and no immigrant shall be allowed to leave his employment under transfer until the same has been recorded in the books of the Immigration Office, or other appointed office. All transfers shall be signed by the transferor and immigrant in presence of a magistrate, who shall, before such signing, explain to the immigrant the full meaning and effect of such transfer; provided that every transferee shall enter into a bond similar to that of the transferor prior to any transfer being consented to.

Deaths or desertions to be reported immediately.

14. All deaths or desertions shall be immediately reported to the nearest bench of magistrates, and to the Immigration Agent, by the employer; and, in case of death, a medical certificate of the cause thereof shall be forwarded, if possible.

Masters of vessels to execute bonds prior to proceeding to hire labourers.

15. All masters of vessels about to proceed to the South Sea Islands, in order to obtain labourers therefrom, shall enter into a bond, in Form (B.), with two sufficient sureties, for the prevention of kidnapping, and for the due observance of these regulations, so far as they are concerned.

Number of passengers. (Vide Imperial Act, 16 & 17 Vict. c. 84).

16. No ship shall carry a greater number of passengers than in the proportion of one statute adult to every 12 clear superficial feet allotted to their use; provided that the height between decks shall not be less than 6 feet 6 inches from deck to deck. When the height of the 'tween decks exceed 6 feet 6 inches, an extra number of passengers may be taken at the rate of one for every 144 cubic feet of space. Each ship must be fitted with open berths or sleeping places, in not more than two tiers; the lowest tier shall be raised 6 inches from the deck, and the interval between the two tiers of berths shall not be less than 2 feet 6 inches. All passengers shall be berthed between decks or in deck-houses.

Proportion of passengers to deck area.

17. But no ship, whatever her tonnage or superficial space of passenger decks, shall carry a greater number of passengers on the whole than in the proportion of one statute adult to every five superficial feet clear for exercise on the upper deck or poop, or, if secured and fitted on the top with a railing or guard to the satisfaction of the emigration officer at the port of clearance, on any round-house or deck-house.

Length of voyage.

18. The length of the voyage to or from the South Sea Islands shall be computed at 30 days for sailing vessels and 15 days for steamers.

Water on the voyage.

19. Three quarts of water daily during the voyage shall be allowed to each adult, exclusive of the quantity used for cooking purposes.

20. Provisions shall be issued to each statute adult during the voyage according to the following scale, namely :—

Provisions on the voyage.

DAILY PROVISION FOR STATUTE ADULT.

	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>oz.</i>
Yams - - - - -	4	0
Or rice - - - - -	1½	0
Or maize meal - - - - -	1½	0
Meat (pork or beef) - - - - -	1	0
Tea - - - - -	0	0½
Sugar - - - - -	0	2
Tobacco (during good behaviour) per week - - - - -	0	1½

The undermentioned clothing shall be supplied to each labourer immediately on embarkation, in advance :—

- 1 Flannel shirt.
- 1 Pair trowsers.
- 1 Blanket.

21. Nominal returns of labourers shall be made by employers of South Sea Island labour to the Immigration Agent, at the expiration of each quarter, in Form (H).

Nominal return to be sent at expiration of each quarter.

22. At the end of each quarter the police magistrates, or bench of magistrates, in each district where South Sea Island labourers are employed, shall forward to the Colonial Secretary a return of all cases adjudicated upon in relation to Polynesian labourers employed under these regulations, such returns to include the names of employers and labourers, and the nature of the offences.

Returns to be forwarded to Colonial Secretary each quarter.

23. All persons harbouring or employing Polynesian labourers, otherwise than under these regulations, without reporting the same to the nearest bench of magistrates and to the Immigration Agent in Brisbane, shall be liable, on conviction thereof, to a penalty not exceeding 20 *l.*

Penalty for harbouring runaway labourers.

24. All breaches of these regulations shall be punishable by fine, to be recovered in a summary manner before two justices of the peace; for the first offence, a fine not exceeding 10 *l.*; for second and subsequent offences, not exceeding 20 *l.* nor less than 5 *l.*

Breaches of regulations punishable by fine.

25. All engagements made or to be made with Polynesian labourers already in the Colony, or to arrive, are hereby expressly declared to be subject to the provisions of the Act 25 Vict. (No. 11).

Engagements subject to 25 Vict. (No. 11).

26. A tax of 20 *l.* per head for every Polynesian labourer introduced contrary to the provisions of this Act shall be levied on all vessels in which such labourers may be brought to this Colony, and in default of payment of such tax such vessel shall be absolutely forfeited to Her Majesty.

Tax on vessels in default of compliance.

27. All expenses incurred by the Government in affording hospital relief to sick Polynesian labourers, or by their detention in immigration depôts, shall be chargeable to the employers of such men, and may be recovered from them by summary process on the information of Immigration Agent or other authorised officer.

Expenses incurred by Government chargeable to employers in certain cases.

28. Any person who shall, without the consent of the labourer and the written permission of the Government, remove or attempt to remove any such labourer out of the Colony of Queensland, except for the purpose of his return to his home, shall be liable to a penalty of 20 *l.* for every such labourer so removed or attempted to be removed; and it shall be lawful for the Government in any case to prevent the removal of any such labourer, except for the purpose of his return to his home as aforesaid.

Labourers not to be removed out of the Colony without permission or consent.

29. Any person supplying Polynesian labourers with spirits shall be punishable, as at present in the case of aborigines, under 51st section of "Licensed Publicans Act," 27 Vict. (No. 16).

Polynesian labourers not to be supplied with spirituous liquors.

30. It shall not be lawful for any employer of Polynesian labourers to charge such labourers with the payment of any moneys on account of stores supplied, or to deduct any sum in respect thereof from any wages due to them.

Store accounts not to be deducted from wages.

31. This Act shall be styled and may be cited as the "Polynesian Labourers Act of 1868."

Short title.

FORM (A).

APPLICATION for Permission to introduce South Sea Island Agricultural or Pastoral Labourers.

I, _____, request to be allowed, in accordance with the Act now in force, to procure from the South Sea Islands _____ immigrants for agricultural or pastoral purposes to be employed in the _____ district.

A. B.,
Applicant's signature.

The above requisition, lodged with me this _____ day of _____ 186 .

G. H.,
Immigration Agent, Queensland.

FORM (B).

BOND to be entered into by Ship-masters.

Know all men by these presents that _____ of _____ and _____ are held and firmly bound unto our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, in the sum of 500 L. of good and lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to our said Lady the Queen, Her heirs and successors, to which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves and every of us jointly and severally for and in the whole, our heirs, executors, and administrators, and every of them firmly by these presents.

Sealed with our seals.

Dated this _____ day of _____ one thousand eight hundred and _____.

Whereas by the "Polynesian Labourers Act of 1868" it is amongst other things enacted that all masters of vessels proceeding to the South Sea Islands in order to obtain labourers therefrom shall enter into a bond with two sufficient sureties for the prevention of kidnapping and due observance of the requirements of the said recited Act. Now the condition of this obligation is such that if the above-bounden J. K., master of ship _____, about to proceed to the South Sea Islands to procure labourers, shall faithfully observe the requirements of the said recited Act and shall satisfy the Government of Queensland through its officer duly appointed for the purpose that no kidnapping was allowed, countenanced, or connived at, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the above-bounden _____ [L. s.]
and _____, in the presence of _____

I hereby certify that the above bond was duly signed, sealed, and delivered by the said _____, and in my presence, this _____ day of _____ 186 .

Immigration Agent.

FORM (C).

LICENSE to recruit Labourers from the South Sea Islands.

This is to certify that _____ [or his agent] is hereby licensed to recruit _____ immigrant labourers from the South Sea Islands for Queensland, in conformity with the Act passed regarding such recruiting. This license is to remain in force only until the number mentioned above have been recruited.

Dated this _____ day of _____ 186 .

Immigration Agent, Queensland.

Colonial Secretary of Queensland.

N.B.—This license is to be returned to the Immigration Agent when the labourers have been received.

FORM (D).

MEMORANDUM of Agreement made this day between _____ of _____ of the first part, and _____ of _____ of the second part, per ship _____, native, _____, and otherwise to make _____ generally useful for the term of _____ calendar months, and also to obey all _____ or _____ overseer's or authorised agents' lawful and reasonable commands during that period; in consideration of which services the said party of the first part doth hereby agree

agree to pay the said party of the second part wages at the rate of not less than six pounds (6 £) per annum, to provide with the under-tated rations daily, to provide suitable clothing and proper lodging accommodation, and to defray the expense of conveyance to the place at which to be employed, to pay wages in the coin of the realm at the end of each year of the agreement, and provide them with a return passage to their native island at the expiration of three years. No wages shall be deducted for medical attendance.

DAILY RATION.

							<i>lbs. oz.</i>
Beef or mutton (or 2 lbs. of fish)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 0
Bread or flour	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 0
Molasses (or sugar)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 5
Vegetables (or rice 4 oz. or maize meal 8 oz.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 0
Tobacco, per week	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 1½
Salt, per week	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 2
Soap, per week	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 4

CLOTHING.

							<i>Yearly.</i>
Shirts (one of flannel or serge) -	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Trowsers, pairs -	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Hat -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blankets -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 pair.

In witness whereof they have mutually affixed their signatures to this document.

Witness :

The above contract was explained in my presence to the said immigrants, and signed before me by them with their names or marks, and by _____ or his authorised agent, at _____ this _____ day of _____ 186 _____.

G. H.,

Immigration Agent or Custom House Officer.

Registered at the
of 186

office, Brisbane, Queensland, this day

G. H.,

Immigration Agent.

FORM (E).

REGISTER of South Sea Island Labourers Employed on the Plantation of _____, in
the _____ District of _____; Name of Plantation, _____; Post Town, _____.

[illegible]

I visited the plantation on _____, and found all in good order.

, J. P.

FORM (F).

We [name and designation of employer and names and numbers of immigrants engaged] being respectively the master and servants under a contract of service, made before the Government Emigration Agent at on the day , do hereby agree that the whole rights and obligations of the said first party under the said contract shall be and the same are hereby transferred, as at the date hereof, to [name and designation], who hereby agrees to accept the said transfer, and the contract hereby transferred, with all its rights and obligations.

X. I. }
A. B. } Signatures or marks of all the parties.
I. }

The above transfer signed by all the parties thereto, its nature and effect having been first fully explained to the immigrants above named, all in my presence. The said transfer also approved and concurred in by me as on behalf of the Government.

At this day of 186 .

G. H.,
Immigration Agent [or Justice of the Peace].

Registered this day of 186 .

G. H.,
Immigration Agent.

FORM (G).

Scale of Rations.

	Daily.	lbs.	oz.
Beef or mutton (or 2 lbs. of fish)	- - - - -	1	0
Bread or flour	- - - - -	1	0
Molasses or sugar	- - - - -	0	5
Vegetables (or rice 4 oz. or maize meal 8 oz.)	- - - - -	2	0
Tobacco, per week	- - - - -	0	1½
Salt, per week	- - - - -	0	2
Soap, per week	- - - - -	0	4
Wages—Not less than six pounds (6 <i>l.</i>) per annum, in the coin of the realm.			

FORM (H).

Quarterly Return.

RETURN of South Sea Islanders Employed on the Plantation of , in the District
of . Name of Plantation ; Post Town ; for Quarter
ending .

No.	Name.	From.	State of Muster on 31st March 1868.	Transfers.	Desertions.	Deaths.	Remarks.

RECAPITULATION.

Number at date of last return - - - - -

Number transferred to plantation during above quarter - - - - -

Deduct:—

Number died during above quarter - - - - -

Number transferred from plantation during above quarter - - - - -

Number remaining on - - - - -

Proprietor of .

Registered at Immigration Office, Brisbane, on and acknowledged

Immigration Agent.

islands at the expiration of three years or thirty-nine moons from date of arrival, at the rate of 10 *l.* sterling for each labourer introduced. Now, the condition of this obligation is such, that if the above-bounden *A. B.* shall pay to the immigration agent at the rate of 15 *s.* per quarter for every Polynesian labourer in his employment for the purpose of providing a return passage for each and every South Sea Islander introduced by him under his application, and also all the charges or expenses incurred by the Government of Queensland in connection with the same, then this obligation to be void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the above-bounden *A. B., C. D.,*
and *E. F.* in the presence of [L. S.]

I hereby certify that the above bond was duly signed, sealed, and delivered by the
said *A. B., C. D.,* and *E. F.* in my presence, this
of 186 . day

Immigration Agent [*or Justice of the Peace.*]

FORM (L).

I hereby certify that the master of the , arrived from on
the day of 186 , has produced to me the necessary certi-
ficates, Form (I.), that the whole of the labourers on board have voluntarily engaged them-
selves, &c. &c.

2. I further certify that the license, Form (C.), has been produced in all cases.

3. I also certify that, by careful examination of the labourers, I have ascertained that
they appear to have a proper understanding of the full meaning and effect of the agree-
ments, and that they voluntarily entered into the same, and that the agreements have been
signed in the form prescribed, Form (D.).

Dated at this day of 186 .

Immigration Agent [*or Officer of Customs.*]

I certify that this Public Bill, which originated in the Legislative Council, has
finally passed the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Queensland.

(signed) *Henry Johnson,*
Legislative Council Chamber, Brisbane, Clerk of the Parliaments.
18 February 1868.

In the name and on behalf of the Queen I assent to this Act.

(signed) *M. C. O'Connell.*
Government House, Brisbane,
4 March 1868.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS (QUEENSLAND)

COPY or EXTRACTS of all CORRESPONDENCE
relating to the Importation of SOUTH SEA
ISLANDERS into *Queensland*.

(*Mr. Taylor.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
6 June 1868.

[*Price 10 d.*]

SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS (QUEENSLAND).

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

IMPORTATION OF SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS INTO QUEENSLAND.

(In continuation of House of Commons Paper, No. 391, of 1868.)

Colonial Office, }
27 July 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Officer administering the Government of
Queensland to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham* and *Chandos*.

(No. 43.)

Government House, Brisbane, Queensland,
16 May 1868.

Received 22 July 1868.

The Officer administering the Government of Queensland to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.
16 May 1868.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Grace's information, a copy of a report addressed to me by Captain Bingham, R.N., the officer in command of Her Majesty's ship "Virago."

28 March 1868.

2. This report is the result of an inquiry undertaken by Captain Bingham, at the instigation of Governor Sir George Bowen, into the treatment and mode of engaging those South Sea Islanders who are employed on board of the vessels engaged in Beche-de-Mer fishing in Torres Straits and the neighbourhood of Cape York.

3. It is satisfactory to find that Captain Bingham has been enabled, from personal observation, to come to the conclusion that none of these people were brought away from their homes against their will, or maltreated.

4. I am enabled also to report to your Grace that, on inquiry from the Emigration Agent in this Colony (who is now, under the Polynesian Labourers' Act, charged with the supervision of these islanders in Queensland), I learn that the employment of these people continues to be very favourably thought of by those gentlemen who have engaged them; that the men themselves, on the establishments he has visited, are apparently industrious, contented, and happy; and that he has, up to the present time, had no complaint of ill-treatment of any kind.

I have, &c.

(signed) M. C. O'Connor.

Enclosure.

Her Majesty's Ship, "Virago," Gladstone,
28 March 1868.

Sir,

IN reference to your Enclosure, No. 1, in letter dated 24th December 1867, I have the honour to inform you that I have made every inquiry possible into the matter of the South Sea Island labour from the schooners "Active" and "Isle of Thanet," as well as from different individuals whom I have met on my way to and from Cape York.

From Cape York I gave a passage to a Mr. John de Largey, to Lizard Islands, who is part owner of "Edith," "Active," and "Isle of Thanet," together with the fishing gear

gear appertaining thereto. I closely questioned him as to the number of South Sea Islanders he had in his employ, the mode of engaging them, and also as to their treatment; he stated he had about 50, all told, and that they were volunteers, and well treated; generally engaged for a period of about two years.

On my arrival at Lizard Islands I sought out and interrogated the man in charge of the fishing party, in the same manner; his statement did not materially differ from De Largey's.

I then mustered all the people, having ascertained that none were absent; they numbered six article men, 40 South Sea Islanders and two women; I questioned them as to their food, and manner of treatment; a number of these men understand English, and they all appeared satisfied with what they received: viz., rice, fish, molasses, and flour, with a small portion of meat, and from all I could gather they appeared to be well cared for and happy, many of them coming up to De Largey, shaking hands warmly, and greeting him most cordially: I landed with him. On my questioning the men as to the length of time they had been employed fishing, they said 10 months, and expected to remain about 12 longer, when they would go back to their homes.

Taking an impartial view of the demeanour of these people, I do not imagine that any of them were brought away from their homes against their will, or maltreated.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry M. Bingham,*
Commander.

His Excellency,
The Governor of Queensland,
&c. &c. &c.

(True Copy.)

Fitz Roy Somerset,
Private Secretary.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS (QUEENSLAND).

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

IMPORTATION OF SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS

INTO

QUEENSLAND.

(Presented to Parliament by Her Majesty's Command.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
29 July 1868.

V I C T O R I A.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 12 March 1868;—for,

“COPY or EXTRACT of further CORRESPONDENCE respecting and arising from the Non-enactment of the APPROPRIATION ACT in *Victoria* and the RECALL of the GOVERNOR of the COLONY, since the LETTER from the Right Honourable *C. B. Adderley*, M.P., to Sir *C. Darling*, K.C.B., dated the 7th day of March 1867, with the Enclosure—(in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 310, of Session 1867).”

Colonial Office, }
20 March 1868. }

C. B. ADDERLEY.

(*Mr. Adderley.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
20 March 1868.

SCHEDULE.

DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1	22 Feb. 1867 (No. 33) -	Acknowledges Lord Cameron's Despatch, No. 47, of 8th December 1866. In order that no misconception may arise as to his Lordship's views relative to the grant to Lady Darling, states that he has laid a copy of that Despatch before the Legislative Assembly, and also the Message, of which he encloses a copy - - -	1
2	27 July 1867 (No. 102) -	Acknowledges the Duke of Buckingham's Despatch, No. 28, of 10th May, announcing that Sir Charles Darling had elected finally to retire from the Colonial Service, and transmits his communications with his responsible advisers relative to the grant to Lady Darling	2
3	27 Aug. 1867 (No. 115) -	Reporting the rejection of the Appropriation Bill for 1867 by the Legislative Council, the resignation of the McCulloch Ministry, and forwarding copies of Correspondence showing the successive steps taken in consequence, and referring to judgments obtained in the Supreme Court under the Crown Remedies Act - - -	4
4	27 Sept. 1867 (No. 129) -	Forwards Memorandum signed by the Chief Secretary, which should have formed part of the Correspondence forwarded in Despatch, No. 115, of 27 August 1867 - - -	13
5	27 Sept. 1867 (No. 130) -	Transmits Address adopted by the Legislative Council respecting the rejection by that House of the Bill appropriating the supplies for the year, and also the reply transmitted to the Council - -	14
6	27 Sept. 1867 (No. 131) -	Forwards speech proroguing Parliament - - -	21
7	27 Sept. 1867 (No. 132) -	Forwards Speech with which, on the 18th September, he opened the fourth session of the fifth Parliament of Victoria - - -	21
8	27 Sept. 1867 (No. 133) -	Transmits the Address of the Legislative Assembly in answer to the Speech with which the Parliament was opened, together with a copy of the Governor's reply to that Address - - -	22
9	27 Sept. 1867 (No. 134) -	Forwards Address of Legislative Council in answer to opening Speech, and also copy of reply - - -	23
10	27 Sept. 1867 (No. 135) -	Continuing the narrative of the course of events in connection with the proposed grant to Lady Darling - - -	24
11	26 Oct. 1867 (No. 148) -	Continuation of the narrative of events in connection with the proposed grant to Lady Darling. Stating that the Appropriation Bill has been a second time rejected, and that Ministers' advice to dissolve the Assembly has been accepted - - -	28
12	27 Nov. 1867 (No. 151) -	Enclosing copy of the Speech with which the Governor prorogued Parliament on the 8th November - - -	33
13	27 Nov. 1867 (No. 152) -	Transmits Address from the Legislative Council to the Queen, praying Her Majesty to signify Her Royal will and pleasure relative to the proposed grant to Lady Darling - - -	34
14	27 Nov. 1867 (No. 155) -	Reports the rejection by the Legislative Council of the Supply Bill, by a majority of 20 to 8. Transmits Correspondence which had passed between the Governor and his responsible advisers - -	35
15	27 Dec. 1867 (No. 161) -	Forwards report of case and judgment of Supreme Court, in <i>Alcock v. Fergie</i> , respecting the scope and operation of the Crown Remedies Act - - -	40

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1	1 May 1867 (No. 24.) -	Approves the Governor's course in laying before the Legislative Assembly Lord Carnarvon's Despatch, No. 47, of the 8th December 1866, respecting the proposed grant to Lady Darling - - -	46
2	10 May 1867 (No. 28.) -	Transmits letter from Sir Charles Darling, in which he elects finally to relinquish the Colonial Service - - - - -	46
3	30 Oct. 1867 (No. 75.) -	Conveys his Grace's approval of the course adopted by the Colonial Government with regard to the proposed grant to Lady Darling -	47
4	31 Oct. 1867 (No. 76.) -	Approves the subsequent steps which the Governor had taken in the difficult position in which he had been placed - - -	47
5	22 Nov. 1867 (No. 84.) -	Acknowledges Despatches, Nos. 132, 133, and 134, of the 27th September - - - - -	48
6	22 Nov. 1867 (No. 86.) -	Acknowledges Despatch, No. 131, of 27th September, transmitting a copy of the Speech addressed to both Houses of the Legislature on the prorogation of Parliament on the 10th November - - -	48
7	26 Nov. 1867 (No. 90.) -	Acknowledges Despatches, Nos. 129, 130, and 135, of 27th September, on the subject of the state of affairs arising out of the proposed grant to Lady Darling. Is glad to learn that there is a growing desire on the part of the two Houses of the Legislature to reconcile their differences in a manner consistent with the dignity of both Houses - - - - -	48
8	1 Jan. 1868 (No. 1.) -	In reply to Despatch of No. 148, of 26th October, relating to the conflict between the two branches of the Legislature, sees no reason to disapprove the course of conduct which the Governor had thought it necessary to adopt, and states that his Grace is fully sensible of the great difficulties under which he has to conduct the administration of the Colony - - - - -	49
9	1 Feb. 1868 (No. 8.) -	Acknowledges Despatch, No. 155, reporting the rejection, by the Legislative Council, of the Supply Bill, and expresses regret at the refusal of the Council to pass the Bill. States that Her Majesty's Government are unable to relieve the Governor from the responsibility of deciding for himself in cases in which the law invests him with the power of preventing the issue of public funds, by refusing his warrant, or of preventing the conclusion of any contract for the satisfaction of which no money has been provided by Parliament - - - - -	50
10	1 Feb. 1868 (No. 9.) -	Acknowledges Despatch No. 152, enclosing an Address to Her Majesty from the Legislative Council, in which they express their opinion that the proposed grant to Lady Darling is a departure from the Colonial Regulations which the Legislature should not approve until sanctioned by Her Majesty - - - - - His Grace is of opinion that the proposed grant is not so clear a violation of the existing rule as to call for the extreme measure of forbidding a Governor to be a party to those formal acts which are necessary to bring the grant under the consideration of the local Parliament; expresses the regret of Her Majesty's Government that a conflict should have arisen between the two Houses of Parliament; and that it is for the Legislative Council to decide whether, in a case where it is possible to contend that no formal breach of regulation has occurred, it is desirable that the Council should continue to oppose itself to the ascertained wishes of the community - - - - -	50 50
11	26 Feb. 1868 (No. 15.) -	Acknowledges Despatch, No. 161, enclosing Judgment of the Supreme Court in the case of <i>Alcock v. Fergie</i> , and approves the intention of which the Governor expresses, to be guided by the decision of the Court in all his proceedings regarding the issue of public money - - - - -	51

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AND
SIR CHARLES DARLING.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1	Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B., to the Duke of Buck- ingham and Chandos. 3 April 1867.	Transmits petition of Appeal to the Queen in Council on the part of the Attorney General of Victoria respecting certain Customs duties alleged to have been illegally levied in that Colony in 1865; and also a report of the proceedings in the Privy Council, upon the hearing of that Petition. Requests that they may be included in the papers recently moved for in the House of Commons by Lord Bective - - - - -	52
2	The Right Hon. C. B. Adderley, M.P., to Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B. 12 April 1867.	In reply to the above, states that his Grace cannot sanction the printing either of the Petition of Appeal nor the other documents referred to in Sir C. Darling's letter in the paper preparing for presentation to the House of Commons - - - - -	52
3	Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B., to the Duke of Buck- ingham and Chandos. 13 April 1867.	Acknowledges Mr. Adderley's letter, and requests copies of docu- ments enclosed in his letter - - - - -	53
4	Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., to Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B. 20 April 1867.	Returns the documents which accompanied Sir Charles Darling's letter of the 3rd April; and also a printed copy of the petition addressed to the Queen in Council by the Attorney General of Victoria, together with a copy of the Report of the Judicial Com- mittee of the Privy Council on the subject of Her Majesty's order thereon - - - - -	53
5	Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B., to the Duke of Buck- ingham and Chandos. 17 April 1867.	Affording explanations respecting his former communications; and states that Lady Darling is compelled, by the increasing pressure of circumstances attending the painful position in which Sir Charles Darling's recall had placed him, to accept the grant; and that he, therefore, finally relinquishes the Colonial Service, and "all the emoluments or expectations attaching to it" - - - - -	53
6	T. Frederick Elliot, Esq., to Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B. 29 April 1867.	Acknowledges letter relinquishing the Colonial Service - - - - -	55
7	Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B., to the Duke of Buck- ingham and Chandos. 22 April 1867.	Requests his Grace to acquaint the Governor of Victoria, by the mail of the 26th April, that he had relinquished the Colonial Service - - - - -	55
8	Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., to Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B. 14 May 1867.	States that, in compliance with the above request, his Grace had informed the Governor of Victoria that Sir Charles Darling had finally relinquished the Colonial Service - - - - -	55
9	Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B., to the Duke of Buck- ingham and Chandos. 22 April 1867.	Expresses his thanks for the documents transmitted in Sir Frederic Rogers' letter of the 20th April - - - - -	55

COPY or EXTRACT of further CORRESPONDENCE respecting and arising from the Non-enactment of the APPROPRIATION ACT in *Victoria* and the RECALL of the GOVERNOR of the COLONY, since the LETTER from the Right Honourable *C. B. Adderley*, M.P., to Sir *C. Darling*, K.C.B., dated 7th March 1867, with the Enclosure—(in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 310, of Session 1867).

Despatches from the Governor.

— No. 1. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of *Carnarvon*.

(No. 33.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,
February 22, 1867.

(Received, April 13, 1867.)

(Answered, No. 24, May 1, 1867, page 46.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 8th December 1866, No. 47,* respecting the proposed grant of 20,000 *l.* to Lady Darling, and to inform your Lordship that I forthwith communicated the contents of the Despatch to my Responsible Advisers.

It is of great importance that no misconception should at any time (now or hereafter) arise with respect to your Lordship's views upon this question, and it was deemed advisable (and I entirely concurred in this opinion) to lay before the Legislative Assembly a copy of your Lordship's Despatch (in extenso), together with the Message of which I have the honour to enclose a copy.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*.

The Right Hon. Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 1.
Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B., to
Right Hon. Earl
of Carnarvon.
22 Feb. 1867.

* Vide H.C.
No. 310 of 1867,
page 37.

Enclosure in No. 1.

J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, Governor.

Message No. 9.

Encl. in No. 1.

THE Governor transmits to the Legislative Assembly the copy of a Despatch received by him by the last mail from the Secretary of State, in reply to the Despatch in which General Carey, the officer administering the Government, forwarded, for presentation to Her Majesty, the Address to Her Majesty respecting the proposed grant to Lady Darling, adopted by the Legislative Assembly on the 8th May 1866.

The Legislative Assembly will observe that the Secretary of State has been engaged in a correspondence on the subject of that address with Sir Charles Darling, which correspondence, at the date of the Despatch, was not concluded.

Government Offices, Melbourne, 19th February 1867.

— No. 2. —

No. 2.

Governor Sir J.
H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to his
Grace the Duke
of Buckingham
and Chandos.
27 July 1867.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 102.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 July 1867.

(Received, 12 September 1867.)

(Answered, No. 75, 30 October 1867, page 47.)

My Lord Duke,

* Page 46.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Grace's Despatch of the 10th May, No. 28,* in which your Grace has informed me that Sir Charles Darling has elected finally to retire from the colonial service.

Enclosure 1.

2. That Despatch announced to me the termination and the result of the correspondence between the Colonial Department and Sir Charles Darling, referred to by Lord Carnarvon in his Despatch of the 8th December 1866, No. 47, and it was, I conceived, my duty at once to communicate its contents to the Legislative Assembly as well as to my Responsible Advisers. And accordingly I laid your Grace's Despatch before the Legislative Assembly with the message, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (A.)

3. Your Grace is aware that pending the continuance of Sir Charles Darling's connexion with the Colonial service, and while the rule of the Colonial service that a governor shall not receive pecuniary or valuable presents from the inhabitants of the Colony over which he presides, either during the continuance of his office or on leaving it, was operative on him, my Responsible Advisers did not tender to me any advice with respect to the proposed grant of money to Lady Darling; but I could not doubt that if, and when, Sir Charles Darling should finally retire from the Colonial service, and thus withdraw himself from the operation of the rules of the service, they (my Responsible Advisers) would regard themselves as pledged to realize the expectations held out to him in the address of the Legislative Assembly of the 9th May 1866; and I was not therefore unprepared for the advice submitted to me by the Chief Secretary, on the part of himself and his colleagues, in the memorandum of which a copy is enclosed, marked (B.)

Enclosure 2,
17 July 1867.

4. Your Grace will bear in mind that by the 57th clause of the Constitution Act, the Legislative Assembly is precluded from originating or passing any vote of money for any purpose which shall not have been recommended in a message from the Governor, and a refusal, therefore, to comply with the advice that the proposed grant to Lady Darling should be included in the estimates, which are uniformly transmitted by message, would have been in effect a refusal on my part to afford to the Legislative Assembly a constitutional opportunity of discussing that grant, while my acquiescence in the recommendation of my advisers could not be regarded as implying any personal opinion with respect to the policy of that or of any of the other various items included in the Estimates.

Enclosure 3,
18 July 1867.

5. I therefore informed the Chief Secretary, in a memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed, marked C., that I was prepared, at once, to act upon the advice tendered to me by him and his colleagues; and in the additional Estimates for the year, which were laid before the Legislative Assembly on the 23rd instant, a vote for 20,000 £. to Lady Darling is included.

6. These Estimates have already caused a very protracted sitting of the Legislative Assembly, which lasted, with a few temporary adjournments for refreshment, from Wednesday afternoon until Thursday night; but the discussion on the proposed grant to Lady Darling will not commence before the departure of the mail.

I have, &c.

(signed) J. H. T. Manners Sutton.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

(A.)

J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, Governor.

Message No. 23.

Encl. 1, in No. 2.

THE Governor transmits to the Legislative Assembly, with reference to his message No. 9, of the 19th February last, the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, from which it appears that Sir Charles Darling has elected finally to relinquish the Colonial Service.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
22nd July 1867.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

(B.)

MINUTE for his Excellency the Governor.

Encl. 2, in No. 2.

REFERRING to Lord Carnarvon's Despatch of the 8th December 1866, in which his lordship notified to your Excellency that Her Majesty had been pleased to receive very graciously the address of the Legislative Assembly respecting the proposed grant to Lady Darling, but that his lordship was unable to recommend Her Majesty to accede to its request, it being impossible that Her Majesty should be advised to sanction the literal or substantial violation by any of her servants of the rule that a Governor should not receive pecuniary or valuable presents from the inhabitants of the Colony over which he presides, either during the continuance of his office or on leaving it, and further that the acceptance of the proposed gift could only be regarded as a final relinquishment by Sir C. Darling of Her Majesty's Service, and of all emoluments or expectations arising from it,—referring also to the despatch of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, of the 10th May 1867, in which his Grace notifies that Sir Charles Darling has elected finally to relinquish the Colonial Service,—his Excellency is advised that provision be made upon the Estimates for the grant of 20,000 *l.* (twenty thousand pounds) to Lady Darling, in accordance with the address of the Legislative Assembly dated 9th May 1866.

(signed) *James McCulloch.*

Government Offices, Melbourne,
17th July 1867.

Enclosure 3, in No. 2.

(C.)

Encl. 3, in No. 2.

THE Governor has received the memorandum of yesterday's date, submitted to him by the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

The Governor concurs in the opinion that, when taken in connexion with Lord Carnarvon's Despatch of the 8th December 1866, the notification to him (the Governor) by the Duke of Buckingham, in his Despatch of the 10th May last, of the fact that Sir C. Darling has elected finally to relinquish the Colonial Service, is to be regarded as an intimation that the rule of the Colonial Service to which Sir C. Darling referred last year, in his reply to the address to him of the Legislative Assembly respecting a grant to Lady Darling, and the literal or substantial violation of which by any of Her Majesty's servants, Lord Carnarvon stated in the Despatch above referred to, that it was impossible that Her Majesty should be advised to sanction, is no longer strictly applicable to the proposed grant.

And the Governor, without expressing or implying any opinion with respect to the policy of the step which he has been advised to take, either in itself or as it may hereafter be regarded as a precedent here or elsewhere, is prepared at once to act upon the recommendation submitted to him by the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
18th July 1867.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

No. 3.

Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
his Grace the
Duke of Bucking-
ham and Chandos.

27 August 1867.

No. 102, of July
1867, page 2.

— No. 3 —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 115.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 August 1867.

(Received, 14 October 1867.)

(Answered, No. 76, 31 October 1867, p. 47.)

My Lord Duke,

IN my Despatch, marked in the margin, I had the honour to report to your Grace the steps taken by me with reference to the proposed grant to Lady Darling, and the then existing condition of affairs in connexion with that grant.

2. I have now the honour to inform your Grace that all the votes included in the Supplemental Estimates, among which was that for 20,000 £. to Lady Darling, were passed in the Legislative Assembly. The proposed grant, however, to Lady Darling was strongly opposed, and subjected to the test of two divisions. These divisions showed respectively 42 in favour of the vote, and 15 against it; while the numbers were, in the second division, 34 for, and 13 against the vote. The "Appropriation Bill" was then introduced, passed, and sent to the Legislative Council.

3. Meanwhile the Legislative Council had appointed a Committee to search for precedents on the subject, and there can be no doubt that the Report of the Committee, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (A.), very materially influenced the Legislative Council in the course which they pursued subsequently in connexion with the Bill.*

4. On the 20th instant the second reading of the Bill (Appropriation) was moved in the Legislative Council, and the Bill was rejected by a majority of 23 to 6.

5. I should here state that, even before the Appropriation Bill was thus rejected, the funds placed at the disposal of the Government by Parliament in the usual "Supply Bill," passed at an earlier period of the Session, were exhausted, and many undisputed claims on the Government, including the salaries of the civil servants, due on the 1st August, remained unpaid; and on the 20th instant a warrant was submitted for my signature for satisfying a judgment obtained under the "Crown Remedies Act," against the Queen by a contractor. To this warrant was appended the certified copy (required by the Crown Remedies Act) of the judgment of the Supreme Court, and the certificate of the Commissioners of Audit that the monies specified in it (the warrant) were legally applicable to the satisfaction of the judgment.

6. But before I signed the warrant I thought it right to address to the Attorney General the memorandum marked (B.), and on receiving his reply, marked (C.), I explained and placed on record, in a memorandum marked (D.), addressed by me, through the Chief Secretary, to my Responsible Advisers, the opinion which I entertain with respect to the legal and constitutional points thus raised in connexion with the operation of the Crown Remedies Act.

7. And the course which I have pursued has been strictly in accordance with the principles laid down in that memorandum, which principles are, I trust, consonant with the spirit and letter of the law and the constitution.

8. On the 22nd following that on which the above-mentioned warrant was signed by me, I received from the Chief Secretary the memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (E). My reply to that memorandum and the subsequent correspondence which has passed, firstly, between myself and the Chief Secretary (and his colleagues); secondly with Mr. Fellows, and thirdly with Mr. Fraser (of which correspondence copies are enclosed), present to your Grace a continuous although incomplete narrative of the successive steps which I have taken in endeavouring to bring to a conclusion a condition of affairs scarcely less threatening to constitutional government here than it is embarrassing to the public creditor.

9. I am

* The Report only is printed. "The Precedents and the Proceedings of the Committee" are deposited, for reference, in the Library of the House of Commons.

Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2.

Enclosure 3.

Enclosure 4.

Enclosure 5.

Enclosures 6 to 16.

9. I am aware that your Grace is entitled to receive fuller explanations than it is now in my power to afford with regard to the motives by which I have been actuated in taking the steps which I have successively adopted, but I trust that the very onerous and urgent character of the various questions which now claim my attention will be regarded by your Grace as a sufficient reason for the postponement of more detailed information on these points.

10. Meanwhile I can only assure your Grace that I have endeavoured to combine with strict obedience to the law and an abstinence from any act which might be regarded as evincing personal or political favour or disfavour of a particular political party a moderating influence with both.

11. I should add that Mr. Fraser is now engaged in the mission intrusted to him, by me, and that it is impossible for me to foretell the result.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

(A.)

REPORT.

THE Committee of the Legislative Council, which was appointed on the 6th August, "to search for precedents as to the usage and practice of the Imperial Parliament with respect to grants of money made under extraordinary and exceptional circumstances," to which Committee was referred "a Copy of the Report from the Committee appointed by the Legislative Assembly on the 3rd day of May in last year, to prepare an Address to his Excellency Sir Charles Henry Darling, and to consider and report on the steps the Legislative Assembly should take with reference to his being relieved from his position as Officer Administering her Majesty's Government in this Colony," have the honour to make the following Report to your Honourable House.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

1. Your Committee have, in compliance with the instructions of your Honourable House, searched the journals of the Imperial Parliament, so far as the time at their disposal has enabled them to do so, with regard to exceptional or extraordinary grants.

2. It appears to be the practice in England that, when any pecuniary grant has been intended to be conferred upon any person who has held high office, or performed some distinguished service, the aid of the House of Commons and the concurrence of the House of Lords are usually invited by messages from the Crown, after compliance with which invitations the necessary subsequent steps are taken, by means either of a separate Bill, or of a provision in the Appropriation Act. A list of some cases illustrating this practice is submitted in an Appendix (A) to this report. The latest case, that of a grant to Sir Rowland Hill, has been extracted from Hansard's Parliamentary Debates, the Journals of the period (1864) not having yet been received in the Victoria Parliament Library.

3. It further appears that whenever it might be reasonably supposed that any grant supported by the House of Commons was likely to be objected to, or had been the subject of inquiry in the House of Lords, it has been the practice, so far as your Committee can discover, to make such grant the subject of a separate Bill in the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland. Doubtless the same practice existed before the Union with Ireland, as may be inferred from a perusal of Phillips's case in 1781 and 1785, which your Committee therefore append to this Report (Appendix B); but as the Parliament of Victoria is bound by the Constitution Act (except where otherwise provided for by Joint Standing Order) to resort to the "rules, forms, and usages of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland," it is important to know exactly what has been the practice of that Imperial Parliament.

For this purpose, your Committee have appended in detail Appendices (B and C) the proceedings in the Houses of Lords and Commons with regard to the case of John Palmer, Esq., to whom, with the concurrence of both Houses, after much discussion, a grant of 50,000*l.* was made by separate Bill in 1813.

It is noticeable that a Committee of the House of Commons had advocated Mr. Palmer's claims in 1797; that a general election took place in 1802, another in 1806, and another in 1807; throughout the whole of which period it was apparently not proposed to make any grant to Mr. Palmer through the Appropriation Act.

In 1807 and in 1808 there was a large majority in favour of Mr. Palmer's claims. Nevertheless, in the latter year, even with regard to "arrears" alleged to be "due" to him, there was a still larger majority in the House of Commons adverse to what Mr. Canning called the "constitutional impropriety" of inserting a grant in the Appropriation Bill, after the Lords had evinced a desire to consider the claim. At no subsequent period did the same House entertain a proposition of the kind; although in 1811 and in 1812 the case

was again considered, and on each occasion large majorities supported Mr. Palmer's claims. After a general election in 1812, when the subject was revived, it was dealt with by a separate Bill in 1813; on the rejection of which Bill by the House of Lords, a second Bill so framed as to be acceptable to the House of Lords was brought in, in the same Session, and passed without difficulty.

The details of the case show that Mr. Palmer's claims were founded upon the construction of an agreement by which the House of Commons maintained that a certain percentage was secured to Mr. Palmer throughout his life, although he had been removed from office, while the contrary opinion was maintained in the House of Lords. The voluminous extracts in the Appendices (B and C) show that the case occupied the serious attention of the House of Commons. To the extent above narrated, the constitutional precedent involved in the case bears the approval of five successive Parliaments, and does not appear to have been since disturbed.

4. Your Committee have included in the Appendices the case of a grant to pay the debts of Mr. Pitt, which, it will be seen, was alluded to in the House of Lords when Mr. Palmer's claims were under discussion (Appendix C).

A marked distinction was shown to exist between the two cases. An address to the Crown, praying that a sum might be advanced to pay Mr. Pitt's debts, was unanimously adopted by the House of Commons on the 3rd February 1806. No desire to inquire into the matter was evinced in the House of Lords; and (after some lapse of time), on the 26th March, his Majesty intimated his compliance with the address. In Mr. Palmer's case, when an address to the Crown, praying for an advance to him, was adopted by the House of Commons in 1811, the House of Lords took exception, and the Crown declined to sanction the advance, it being maintained in both Houses to be unconstitutional to deny to the House of Lords the exercise of their right to deal separately with a matter into which they had inquired, and on which they had expressed an opinion adverse to that of the House of Commons.

It is worthy of remark that, while the House of Commons at all times exhibited large majorities in favour of Mr. Palmer's claims, it also acquiesced, by still larger majorities, in the constitutional principle thus maintained.

The case of the grant to Sir Rowland Hill, in 1864 (Appendix A), may be taken as an instance of the practice now prevalent with regard to any exceptional or extraordinary grant.

5. Taking all the foregoing circumstances into consideration, your Committee are of opinion that the proposal in the Report referred to them, to make a grant to Sir Charles Darling, or to any member of his family, is one which, in accordance with the usage before referred to, should not be included in the Appropriation Act.

(signed) *J. F. Palmer*, Chairman.

Enclosure 2, in No. 3.

(B.)

Encl. 2, in No. 3.

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Attorney General.

A WARRANT for the sum necessary to satisfy a judgment against the Crown obtained in the Supreme Court by Mr. Linacre has been submitted, with the certificate required by the 25th section of the Crown Remedies Act, to the Governor for his signature.

It is enacted, in the above-mentioned section of the Act, that on the receipt of such a certificate, "it shall be lawful for the Governor" to cause to be paid out of the consolidated revenue the damages and costs awarded by the judgment.

The Governor would be glad to learn from the Honourable the Attorney General, whether these words invest the Governor with any discretionary power, either complete or to be exercised for reasons to be assigned in the matter, or whether they are to be regarded as obligatory.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
21 August 1867.

Enclosure 3, in No. 3.

(C.)

Encl. 3, in No. 3.

MEMORANDUM for His Excellency the Governor.

SECTION 25 of the Act No. 241, confers power upon the Governor to cause the damages and costs to be awarded by the judgment to be paid out of the consolidated revenue. The exercise of the power is necessary for the satisfaction of claims ascertained by process of law, and possessing, therefore, the highest authority, and it ought not to be denied in any case except for clear and most cogent reasons.

I am of opinion, however, that the terms of the section are not legally obligatory, and that the Governor cannot be compelled by law either to exercise the power or to assign his reasons for refusing to exercise it.

Crown Law Office,
21 August 1867.

(signed) *Geo. Higinbotham*.

Enclosure 4, in No. 3.

(D.)

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

THE Governor desires to call the attention of his responsible advisers to a warrant which has been submitted to him for his signature. Encl. 4, in No. 3.

This warrant is for the sum of 9,047 l. 5s. 4d., and it is required for the purpose of satisfying a judgment which has been obtained in the Supreme Court by Abraham Linacre against the Queen.

Now the funds which Parliament has placed at the disposal of the Government for the payment of claims of this character are exhausted; but there can be no question that under the provisions of the Crown Remedies Act, the public monies in the treasury are legally applicable to the satisfaction of the above-mentioned judgment; and the amount is immaterial. Moreover, the Governor is advised, and believes that he is not only legally empowered, but morally bound to issue this warrant, inasmuch as the claim of Mr. Linacre is not doubtful, either in law or in equity; and as no answer or objection to the claim could be alleged on the part of the Crown, the law officers of the Crown have very properly abstained from endeavouring to oppose any obstacle to Mr. Linacre's obtaining a judgment.

But it clearly was not the intention of the Legislature, in passing the Crown Remedies Act, to substitute judgments of the Supreme Court for parliamentary grants for the satisfaction of undisputed claims on the Government; and it is equally clear that the adoption of any such practice would withdraw the public funds from the control of Parliament, and place them practically at the disposal of the Governor, on the advice of ministers named by himself, and no longer restrained by those constitutional checks which, under parliamentary or responsible government, render parliamentary supplies a necessary condition for the expenditure of public money, and, therefore, for the retention of office by any administration.

The Governor would further observe that while the question thus raised involves the constitutional authority of Parliament in the aggregate, the Legislative Assembly is the most deeply interested in the maintenance of the existing parliamentary control over the expenditure of the public funds by the Government.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

21 August 1867.

Enclosure 5, in No. 3.

(E.)

MINUTE for His Excellency the Governor.

HIS Excellency's advisers have lost no time in giving their earnest and anxious consideration to the embarrassing state of public affairs consequent upon the rejection by the Legislative Council of the Bill for appropriating the supplies for the year. They feel it due to themselves, and to the large majority which has supported them in the Legislative Assembly, to make his Excellency acquainted with the history of the embarrassments and the public loss that have been sustained by reason of the attempt of the Legislative Council to obtain, by indirect means, co-ordinate power with the Legislative Assembly in dealing with the finances of the country. Encl. 5, in No. 3.

The rejection by the Legislative Council in 1865 of the Supply and Appropriation Bill for that year was followed by the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly. The issue was then distinctly, and without reservation, put to the country, whether the control of the finances should, or should not, rest absolutely with the Assembly. The result of that appeal was that, out of a House of 78 Members, some 58 were returned pledged to maintain inviolate the right of the Assembly to the exclusive control of all matters of aid and supply.

On the re-assembling of Parliament the Supply Bill for the year was again passed by the Legislative Assembly, and was again rejected by the Legislative Council, notwithstanding that the constituencies had so emphatically declared in favour of the financial policy of the Government. It is due to the Legislative Assembly to inform his Excellency that when the Supply and Appropriation Bill was thrown out, the reasons adduced by the Council were, that supply and appropriation could not properly be included in one Bill, and that the Bill so thrown out, was regarded as a "tack." In these circumstances, although the majority of the Legislative Assembly believed that the Constitution Act, and the practice of the House of Commons justified them, if they thought it proper to do so, to include ways and means and their appropriation in one measure, they waived their privileges, and complied with the wishes of the majority of the Legislative Assembly by passing the supply as a distinct measure; but even then, and notwithstanding an appeal to the country, it was rejected by the Council. The measure was ultimately passed, after a conference between the two Houses.

What occurred on that occasion clearly shows that the constitutional means of testing the opinion of the country has hitherto had no effect in healing the differences between the two Houses in regard to the control and management of the finances.

On the 9th day of April in the present year, the Legislative Council invited the Legislative Assembly to a conference on the subject in dispute. The invitation was accepted. The result was the following resolution, arrived at unanimously by the Committees of both Houses:—

“That inasmuch as doubts have arisen respecting the form or contents of and practice relating to Bills required by the 56th section of the Constitution Act to originate in the Legislative Assembly, this House is of opinion that the practice of the Lords and Commons respectively be observed as to such Bills, and as to all subjects of aid and supply; and that each House be guided in all matters and forms relating thereto by the precedents established by the House of Lords and by the House of Commons respectively.”

It should here be stated that the leading Members of the Legislative Council, and who have taken the active part in rejecting the supplies to Her Majesty, were members of that conference.

It was hoped and believed by the Members of the Government, and by the majority of the Assembly, that the decision arrived at would finally and satisfactorily settle the disputes between the two branches of the Legislature in reference to Money Bills, by securing a reference to the now well-understood practice of the House of Lords and the House of Commons in dealing with such matters. Unfortunately, however, the majority of the Legislative Council has, on the first opportunity presented to it, entirely departed from the uniform practice of the House of Lords.

It has been assigned as a reason for the extraordinary course pursued by the Legislative Council in rejecting the Bill, that it contained a grant to Lady Darling. In May 1866 a Select Committee of the Assembly recommended that 20,000*l.* should be appropriated to Lady Darling for her own use. His Excellency Sir Charles Darling, on becoming aware of this, acquainted the Assembly by message that Lady Darling would not be at liberty to accept the grant until Her Majesty's pleasure should be ascertained.

Her Majesty's pleasure has been communicated to the Legislative Assembly through the Despatches of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies. During the 13 or 14 months that have passed since an address to Her Majesty was adopted by the Assembly, praying Her Majesty to allow Lady Darling to receive the proposed grant, no action whatever was taken by the Legislative Council to intimate its disapproval of it, but on the 6th of the present month, after the amount had been included in the estimates, that House appointed a Committee to search for precedents on the subject. The report of that Committee is herewith submitted for his Excellency's information.

On reference to it, it will be observed that, of the 22 precedents quoted, three have reference to dowers to royal brides, one to the payment of the debts of a minister of the Crown, two to the endowment of public institutions, one to a grant to a post office secretary, no less than *twelve* to pensions, and one to the payment of a per-centage on the postal revenue. Upon the last case, which is relied upon by the Legislative Council, it is to be remembered that the amount proposed to be voted involved payments extending over a number of years, that the case had been investigated by the House of Lords, and that the Prince Regent had declined to ask for the vote. It must also be borne in mind that Mr. Percival asserted the rights of the House of Commons, and made the procedure in this case a concession to the Lords; indeed the case altogether, in the opinion of his Excellency's advisers, stands out as a marked and manifest exception to the ordinary usage of the House of Commons.

His Excellency's advisers are profoundly impressed with the position into which the country has been precipitated by the refusal of the majority of the Legislative Council to assent to the Appropriation Bill; but in the absence of any guarantee that the decision of the people will command the respect of the Legislative Council, and that public opinion, ascertained by a general election, will protect the rights of the Legislative Assembly in future from further aggressions, his Excellency's advisers are unable to recommend a dissolution, except as a last resort. Nevertheless, if circumstances should appear to render that course inevitable, the Members of the Government reserve to themselves liberty to recommend its adoption; and in that event they will use all the means in their power of making the issue to be determined clear, and the decision of the constituencies effectual and conclusive; and in the event of a sufficient assurance being obtained that the rights of the Legislative Assembly in regard to public finances will be respected in future, the Government would be prepared to invite the Legislative Assembly to pass a Consolidated Revenue Bill pending a dissolution. At present they can only submit the advice that his Excellency should, on an early day, prorogue Parliament for a short period, in order that the Legislative Council may have another opportunity, in a future Session, of considering the Appropriation Bill.

In the interval the demands of the public creditor can only be satisfied, and the necessary provision for the protection of life and property be made, by means of the Act 28 Vict. No. 241, for the recovery of claims against the Crown.

(signed) *James McCulloch.*

Chief Secretary's Office, 22 August 1867.

Enclosure 6, in No. 3.

(F.)

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

Encl. 6, in No. 3.

THE Governor has given his best and most attentive consideration to the Memorandum submitted to him this day by his responsible advisers, in which they have explained the course adopted by them, and by the majority in the Legislative Assembly which supports them, with reference to certain important questions, and the position now occupied by the Government in consequence of the rejection, by the Legislative Council, of the Bill for appropriating the supplies for the year.

The Governor does not regard himself as called upon, nor does he believe that his advisers desire him, to discuss or to express any opinion on the circumstances which have led to the present critical conjunction of affairs.

These circumstances are patent to all, and the Governor will best perform his duty by confining his observations to the concluding paragraphs of the Memorandum in which his advisers state the course which, in their judgment, the Government should pursue in providing, or endeavouring to provide, for the requirements of the public service.

As respects the last paragraph of the Memorandum, in which reference is made to the Crown Remedies Act, the Governor has already, in his Memorandum of yesterday's date, explained the views which he entertains on this subject, and it is unnecessary for him to recur to it.

With regard to the proposal that Parliament should be prorogued on an early day, in order that the Legislative Council may have another opportunity, in a future Session, of considering the Appropriation Bill, the Governor would observe, without reference, however, to the policy of the advice thus tendered, that its adoption now would, in his judgment, be premature.

And, having anxiously considered the position of the Government and his own, he frankly informs his advisers that, in his opinion, it is desirable that he should at once place himself constitutionally in communication with those who have rejected the Appropriation Bill, and who have thus declined to afford to the Government the funds requisite to meet the services of the year.

The Governor communicates to his advisers this opinion without reserve, in the confident belief, justified by his experience during his official connection with them, that they will not attribute to him any other motive than a sincere and earnest desire to perform, in the light of the constitution, and for the benefit of the public at large, his duties as the representative of the Crown.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

22 August 1867.
2.15 P.M.

Enclosure 7, in No. 3.

(G.)

MEMORANDUM for His Excellency the Governor.

Encl. 7, in No. 3.

THE Chief Secretary has submitted to his colleagues his Excellency's Memorandum of this date.

The Cabinet are of opinion that inasmuch as his Excellency has not seen fit to accept the advice which his responsible advisers have felt it their duty to submit to him, and has intimated his desire to place himself constitutionally in communication with those who have rejected the Appropriation Bill, they have no alternative but to tender their resignations to his Excellency, and the Chief Secretary begs leave on behalf of himself and his colleagues to do so accordingly.

(signed) *James M'ulloch.*

22 August 1867.

Enclosure 8, in No. 3.

(H.)

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

Encl. 8, in No. 3.

THE Governor has received the Memorandum in which the Honourable the Chief Secretary, on behalf of his colleagues as well as for himself, has tendered their resignations to him.

And he desired to express his recognition of the ready response which his advisers have given to the suggestions conveyed to them in his former Memorandum of this day's date, and of the assistance which they have thus afforded to him, in the performance of what he believes to be his duty under existing complications and embarrassments.

He is not at present in a position to accept their offered resignations, but it is his intention forthwith to place himself in communication with Mr. Fellows. Meanwhile he requests his advisers to retain their present offices.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
22 August 1867.
4.30 P.M.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Enclosure 9, in No. 3.

(I.)

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable Mr. *Fellows*.

THE Governor informs Mr. Fellows that his responsible advisers have tendered to him their resignations.

The causes which have led to this result are explained in the correspondence which immediately preceded it between the Governor and his advisers. This correspondence is, of course, at the service of Mr. Fellows for perusal.

The Governor is aware that, in intimating to his advisers his desire to place himself in constitutional communication with their political opponents, he adopted an unusual course; but the circumstances under which this intimation was given were also unusual; and it is scarcely necessary for the Governor to state that he adopted this course, not because he desired or desires to give to one political party a victory over the other, or to imply official or personal favour or disfavour for either, but because his advisers were admittedly and confessedly disabled, by the rejection of the Appropriation Bill, from conducting the administration of public affairs, as regards the satisfaction of undisputed pecuniary claims upon the Government, in the usual and strictly constitutional manner, and the Governor therefore considered it to be his duty to invite the advice of those by whom the above-mentioned Bill has been rejected.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Government Offices, Melbourne,
23 August 1867.

Enclosure 10, in No. 3.

(J.)

Mr. FELLOWS, in reply to the Governor's Memorandum inviting the advice of those by whom the Appropriation Bill has been rejected, has the honour to state that after carefully perusing that Memorandum, he finds that the Governor desires to obtain the expression of his opinion on an isolated question of law arising out of the present complication of public affairs, and does not consult him as a constitutional adviser.

Mr. Fellows, with every desire to assist the Governor under the "unusual" circumstances to which his Excellency has referred, feels that it would be improper for him, on the present occasion, to assume the position of the Governor's legal adviser.

Mr. Fellows wishes to observe that he does not find that any attempt has been suggested to bring the two Houses into harmony, and does not admit that as yet any constitutional opportunity of effecting that object has been afforded to those gentlemen in either House who voted against the Appropriation Bill in its present shape.

34, Temple Court,
24 August 1867.

Enclosure 11, in No. 3.

(K.)

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable Mr. *Fellows*.

THE Governor has received Mr. Fellows' Memorandum of this day's date.

It is right that he should state that he cannot concur in the view taken by Mr. Fellows of the circumstances under which, and the question upon which his (Mr. Fellows') advice was sought by the Governor.

But the Governor is aware that his request, although strictly constitutional, for Mr. Fellows' advice did not, in itself, place Mr. Fellows in the position of a "constitutional adviser," if these words are held to signify a "Minister;" and he fully recognises Mr. Fellows' right to decline the responsibility of offering advice unless invested with the authority of a Minister.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

24 August 1867.

Enclosure 12, in No. 3.

(L.)

Encl. 12, in No. 3.

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

THE Governor informs the Honourable the Chief Secretary and his colleagues that, in accordance with the intention expressed in his Memorandum of the 22nd instant, he placed himself in communication with the Honourable Mr. Fellows, and he now lays before them copies of the correspondence which has passed between him and Mr. Fellows.

The Chief Secretary and his colleagues will observe that that correspondence is concluded; and the Governor invites them to regard themselves as occupying the same position, as his responsible advisers, as that which they held before they tendered to him their resignations.

Governor to
Mr. Fellows,
23 Aug. 1867.
Mr. Fellows to
the Governor
24 Aug. 1867.
Governor to
Mr. Fellows,
24 Aug. 1867.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Chamwood, St. Kilda,
24 August 1867.

Enclosure 13, in No. 3.

(M.)

Encl. 13, in No. 3.

MINUTE for His Excellency the Governor.

THE Chief Secretary and his colleagues have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's Memorandum, dated the 24th instant, in which his Excellency informs them that he has communicated with Mr. Fellows, and that the correspondence of which copies are appended has closed.

His Excellency invites the members of the Government to resume their position as his Excellency's advisers.

As his Excellency has already placed himself in correspondence with a member of the Legislative Council, with which body rests the responsibility of refusing the supplies to the Crown, the Chief Secretary and his colleagues, before responding to his Excellency's invitation, desire to suggest that if a settlement of the differences between the Houses can be promoted by further communication with some other members of the majority who rejected the Bill, the opportunity should not be lost.

(signed) *James McCulloch.*

Chief Secretary's Office,
26 August 1867.

Enclosure 14, in No. 3.

(N.)

Encl. 14, in No. 3.

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

THE Governor has received the Memorandum of this day's date, signed by the Chief Secretary on behalf of himself and his colleagues.

The Governor does not decline to act upon their suggestion, that he should enter into further communication with the majority who, in the Legislative Council, rejected the Appropriation Bill, and he will request Mr. Fraser to aid him by his advice.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Chamwood House,
26 August 1867.

Enclosure 15, in No. 3.

(O.)

Encl. 15, in No. 3.

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

THE Governor has now before him sundry "authorities" which have been submitted to him for his signature. He is aware that these "authorities" do not in themselves authorise the expenditure of public money, which can only be expended under a warrant certified by the Audit Commissioners, and signed by the Governor.

But an "authority" expresses the sanction of the Governor for the expenditure submitted in it for his approval; and he refrains from attaching his signature to documents

of this character, because under existing circumstances no public money is at the disposal of the Government, excepting the sums provided under separate Acts of Parliament to meet particular services, and the amounts which may from time to time be required to satisfy judgments against the Queen, which amounts, if the claim be accompanied by the requisite certificate that the judgment has been obtained, and by that of the Audit Commissioners that the sum specified in the judgment is legally applicable to its satisfaction, may be legally withdrawn, under the Governor's warrant, from the public account.

But there may be instances in which warrants, having been issued in gross for the requirements of different Departments by the Governor, his signature to "authorities" separating the payments already made under these warrants, and assigning them to their respective services, may be required; and authorities of this character, if any such remain unsigned by the Governor, may be very properly signed by him.

But the Governor thinks that the present misapprehension, and possible complications hereafter, will be best provided against if the heads of the several Departments abstain from submitting to him any authorities other than those included among the above mentioned.

"Contracts" do not stand on the same footing with "authorities" in a legal point of view; but so long as by the action of Parliament the annual supply is withheld from the Government, the Governor thinks that he would occupy an untenable, or at least an exceptionable, position, in a constitutional point of view, if he were to sanction any new contracts other than those for services the expenditure for which has been already sanctioned and provided for by Parliament.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

26 August 1867.

Enclosure 16, in No. 3.

(P.)

Encl. 16, in No. 3.

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable Mr. Fraser.

THE correspondence which has passed, firstly, between the Governor and the Chief Secretary (and his colleagues), and, secondly, between the Governor and Mr. Fellows, will, with the information possessed by Mr. Fraser as a member of the Legislative Council, explain the circumstances under which, and the purposes for which, the Governor now requests Mr. Fraser's advice and assistance.

Mr. Fraser will observe, that when the Governor consulted Mr. Fellows he (Mr. Fellows) declined, as he was perfectly entitled to decline, to offer advice otherwise than as a "constitutional adviser," by which term the Governor understood, and he believes rightly, Mr. Fellows to mean a "Minister."

On the other hand, the Governor was not, and is not, prepared to commission any gentleman to form a new government until he shall preliminarily have been satisfied, or at least have had good reason to believe, that that step would remove, or mitigate existing embarrassments, as well as afford a prospect of restoring harmonious action in the Legislature.

And it is needless to observe, that the simple exchange of a Government which has a majority in the Legislative Assembly, but is in a minority in the Legislative Council, for one strong in the Legislative Council but numerically weak in the Legislative Assembly, could not, in itself, be regarded as likely to restore to the Government the power, now so urgently required, of meeting in a strictly constitutional and regular manner the current public expenditure.

The Governor has thought it desirable to enter into this preliminary explanation in order that there may be no future misconception with regard to the objects for which he desires to place himself in communication with Mr. Fraser, or with respect to the position in which Mr. Fraser will be placed by acceding to the Governor's request for his advice.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

St. Kilda, 27 August 1867.

— No. 4. —

(No. 129.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B., to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 September 1867.

(Received, 16 November 1867.)

(Answered, No. 90, 26 November 1867, page 48.)

No. 4.

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B., to the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

27 Sept. 1867.

My Lord Duke,

THE Memorandum signed by the Chief Secretary, of which a copy is enclosed, should have formed part of the correspondence between me and my Responsible Advisers, copies of which were transmitted to your Grace in my Despatch of the 27th August, No. 115.*

But although the purport of the Memorandum was made known to me on the 22nd August, the Memorandum itself was not placed on record in the Private Secretary's Office until some days afterwards, in fact, after the departure of the mail.

If it (the Memorandum referred to) had been transmitted to your Grace in my Despatch of the 27th August, No. 115, it would have followed the Memorandum (enclosed in that Despatch) marked (D).

I have, &c.

(signed) J. H. T. Manners Sutton.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c. &c. &c.

* Page 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

MEMORANDUM for His Excellency the Governor.

Encl. in No. 4.

THE responsible advisers of the Governor have given careful consideration to the remarks contained in his Excellency's Memorandum, dated 21st August, addressed to the Chief Secretary.

His Excellency's advisers concur with the observations in the Memorandum respecting the important, and probably unforeseen consequences, which have followed the enactment of a law in this Colony and in England, by which a subject is enabled to enforce claims against the Crown by legal proceedings. These consequences were fully considered "in the English case of *Churchward v. the Queen*, which was argued on a demurrer in the year 1865." The Chief Justice observed in that case, "I am far from saying, that if by express terms the Admiralty had engaged, whether Parliament had provided the funds or not, to employ Mr. Churchward to perform these services, a petition would not lie if that contract were broken."

Another Judge said on the same occasion: "The inconvenience, such as it was, attached to matters of far more importance than Post Office contracts. Treaties with foreign powers, involving the honour and liability of the Crown, are often dependent upon the acceptance by Parliament of the obligation contracted, and the provision of the necessary funds. A few years ago the fulfilment by the Crown of a treaty with a co-belligerent, containing a pecuniary guarantee by the Crown, was imperilled by some opposition in the House of Commons, and only saved by a majority of three."

These observations show the great power that was given by Parliament to the Crown and its advisers by means of this law, and also that a similar power existed in England prior to and independently of the recent legislation. His Excellency's advisers believe, that so long as Ministers of the Crown are practically responsible to that branch of the Legislature which is invested by law with the sole control of the public finances, the large powers created by this Act of Parliament are not likely to be abused; and that the exercise of those powers, in trust for and under the vigilant supervision of the Legislative Assembly, may be found to be essential to the protection of the rights of that Chamber, as well as conducive to the highest interests of the people who are represented by it.

22 August 1867.

(signed) James M'Culloch.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.

(No. 130.)

Governor Sir J.
H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

27 Sept. 1867.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 September 1867.

(Received 16 November 1867.)

(Answered, No. 90, 26 November 1867, p. 48.)

My Lord Duke,

Enclosure 1.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace, herein enclosed, a copy of an Address, adopted by the Legislative Council for presentation to me, respecting the rejection by that House of the Bill appropriating the supplies for the year.

This address was submitted to me in the usual manner (through the Chief Secretary) on the 23rd August, but at that time my Responsible Advisers only held office until their successors might be appointed.

Enclosure 2.

I deferred, therefore, for a few days my reply to the address; but on the 2nd September, when my Responsible Advisers had resumed the performance of their Ministerial duties in the ordinary manner, I transmitted to the Legislative Council the reply, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (B).

I have, &c.

(signed) J. H. T. Manners Sutton.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

(A.)

Encl. 1, in No. 5. To His Excellency the Honourable Sir John Henry Thomas Manners Sutton, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander in Chief of the Colony of Victoria, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency.

WE, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Victoria, in Parliament assembled, beg to approach your Excellency with assurances of our loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty's throne and person, and with expressions of our earnest hope that this Colony may maintain its legitimate position as an integral portion of the British Empire.

The annual Bill for appropriating the supplies for the service of the year 1867 (lately received by this House from the Legislative Assembly) contained a vote of 20,000*l.*, proposed to be placed at Her Majesty's disposal for the purpose of being applied to the separate use of Lady Darling, the wife of the late Governor. The only ground set out in the Bill for such vote is, that it is "in accordance with the resolution of the Legislative Assembly adopted on the 9th May 1866."

Believing, when that resolution was adopted, that effect could not be given to it, we took no steps in the matter. But as soon as we observed in the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of this session that the subject was revived, we took what we conceived to be the parliamentary mode of expressing our desire to consider the proposed grant separately, by sending a message to the Legislative Assembly, requesting that they would be "pleased to communicate to this House a copy of the report from the committee appointed by the Legislative Assembly on the 3rd May in last year to prepare an address to his Excellency Sir Charles Henry Darling, and to consider and report on the steps the Legislative Assembly should take with reference to his being relieved from his position as officer administering Her Majesty's Government in this Colony;" that being the mode adopted by the House of Lords in Palmer's case, to be presently alluded to.

Our resort to the above form of procedure produced no result, and the proposed grants came to us in the Appropriation Bill.

If we had been asked to concur in the principal of such a grant, we should have been constrained to express our decided objection to it, for the following reasons:—

In September 1865 we were under the necessity of representing to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen that Sir Charles Henry Darling, then Governor of this Colony, had made himself a party to several acts which we considered were both illegal and unconstitutional, and we prayed Her Majesty "to adopt such measures as to Her Majesty might seem fit for maintaining in this Colony the Constitution as by law established."

By a Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, dated 26th January 1866, Sir Charles

Charles Henry Darling was requested to inform this House that "the Queen had been pleased to receive their address very graciously, and that Her Majesty had been advised that the proceedings which gave rise to it were contrary to law, and had given instructions intended to prevent their recurrence."

In a subsequent Despatch, in allusion to an address to the Queen from 22 members of the Executive Council of Victoria, Mr. Cardwell wrote as follows [No. 25, 26th February 1866]:—

"Sir,

"I have conveyed to you in another Despatch the answer which I have been commanded by the Queen to return to the address signed by 22 members of the Executive Council of Victoria, which you transmitted to me in your Despatch, No. 152, of the 23rd December.

"The complaint of the petitioners is, as you observe, directed against yourself, and is to the effect that the acts which the address describes as illegal could not have been committed, much less persisted in, if you had not given to those acts the sanction of your authority. In reply to this complaint, while referring to the general obligation under which you are placed, by Her Majesty's instructions, to be guided in all cases (unless you have good reason to the contrary) by the advice of your Ministers, you further say that in the particular proceedings of which the petitioners complain, 'there has been no so-called illegal act on the part of the Government, which you would not, so far as respects the general principles upon which it is based, have carried into effect, if the executive authority had been deposited solely in yourself.' And as regards the loan, you add, 'I should have gone much further than my Ministers counselled me to do, for I should have peremptorily withheld from those banks which refused to assist the Government by loans any further deposits of the public revenue.' I have already, in my Despatch, No 107, of the 27th November, instructed you that some of the acts of your Government to which you gave your sanction were illegal, and have directed you to retrace your steps. But your present Despatch imposes upon me new obligations. I shall, therefore, briefly review the circumstances under which this address has been adopted by the petitioners.

"The course pursued in the Assembly with respect to the Tariff and Appropriation Bills was not warranted by the practice of the English House of Commons, to which, by the Constitution Act, it was intended that the Assembly of Victoria should generally conform. Here not only is a Bill introduced on the very day on which resolutions for the alterations of customs duties are agreed to for the purpose of giving effect to those resolutions, but every exertion is made to pass the Bill with as little delay as possible. Again, no practice is more carefully observed than that which avoids what is called tacking, or the combination of any other enactments with the Bill of Appropriation. But still, in the case which has occurred under your government, the delay of the Tariff Bill, and its union with the Appropriation Bill, were exposed to the same checks to which the like proceedings, if resorted to, would be exposed in this country. The Supreme Court was able to vindicate the right of any subject who might complain that duties were levied from him illegally, and the Legislative Council was able to maintain its own privileges by laying aside the compound Bill. I do not think it would have been desirable for you to interfere in any such manner as to withdraw these matters from their ordinary sphere, and so give to the dispute a character which did not naturally belong to it, of a conflict between the Assembly of Victoria and the representative of the Crown. I am not able to say that, in the actual circumstances of the case, you had it in your power to influence or control the course of affairs without incurring the risk of such a consequence.

"But you ought to have interposed, with all the weight of your authority, when your Ministers continued to levy the duties notwithstanding the adverse decision of the Court. Still more evidently was it your duty to withhold your personal co-operation from the scheme of borrowing money in a manner unauthorised by law. I say unauthorised by law, because the loan itself had not been sanctioned by the Legislature of Victoria, and because the judgment which enabled you to repay that loan, having been obtained as it was, can be regarded only as a form under colour of which the substance of the law was evaded. By these proceedings the Supreme Court and the Legislative Council were practically deprived of the power with which the Constitution intended to invest them. This conduct on your part involved a grave responsibility, and it has led, by natural consequence, to the address which I have now to consider.

"I understand, indeed, that before you received that address your Government had in some degree retraced their steps. The Tariff Bill had been finally rejected by the Council, and the Customs Department ceased to levy the higher duties imposed by the Bill, and repaid to each individual the excess which he had paid. I infer, also, though it is not clearly stated in your Despatches, that they have recommenced the collection of those higher duties which the law imposes on the import of tea and other articles, and on the export of gold. But I also gather that for some months the full amount of the higher duties was not levied, and that for part of that time the Customs Department had ceased to demand any bonds or other security for the payment of the uncollected balance. You do not suggest, and I cannot imagine, that for this proceeding there was even any pretext on which it could have been contended to be legal. As a consequence of these proceedings, the Assembly has now been dissolved without an Appropriation Act, and the borrowing from the bank has been continued.

"Under these circumstances it cannot, I think, be denied that any subject in the Colony was entitled respectfully to approach his Sovereign, and complain that, in the one case by

the wrongful concurrence, and in the other by the personal co-operation of the Queen's representative, he had been deprived for a time of the benefit of the remedy which the Constitution of Victoria provided against irregular acts of power on the part of the Executive Government. I do not see in the language of the address anything disrespectful to Her Majesty, or otherwise worthy of censure, and I cannot but acknowledge that the complaints of the petitioners are just.

"I am thus compelled to approach, and I do so with the deepest regret, the closing paragraphs of your Despatch, in which you describe the address in terms of the strongest condemnation, and express your opinion that a vindication of public morality calls for the forfeiture of the commission and office of the petitioners; informing me that 'if it had not been that under existing circumstances, and at the period of a general election, when many of these gentlemen are candidates for a seat in the Legislative Assembly, the object of such action on your part would have been liable to great misapprehension, you would have suspended them all from office until Her Majesty's pleasure was known.'"

"It is evident that such a course on your part could only have been justifiable if they had been clearly wrong, and that in a very aggravated degree, and in this and in former Despatches, I have stated how little I consider that this has been actually the case.

"But while you thus assign a merely temporary reason for not having taken a course which would on the merits have been unjustifiable, you make in the following words an appeal to me, to which I am obliged to return a clear and decided answer.

"You say:—'Whatever course, in the exercise of your judgment, you may see fit to advise Her Majesty to adopt, it is impossible that the relations between the petitioners and myself can, in the face of this conspiracy, be such as ought to subsist between the Governor and gentlemen holding the commission of an executive councillor, whether occupying or not occupying responsible office; and it is at least to be hoped that the future course of events may never designate any of them for the position of a confidential adviser to the Crown, since it is impossible their advice could be received with any other feelings than those of doubt and distrust.'"

"If I had adopted your views with respect to the conduct of the petitioners I might, undoubtedly, have tendered to Her Majesty the advice which you suggest, but by doing so I should only have deprived those gentlemen of an honorary distinction. It would have been quite beyond my power to obviate the inconvenience to which you point. It would still have remained quite possible that they should again acquire the confidence of a majority of the Assembly, and, therefore, be the persons from whom you would naturally select your Ministers.

"It has been my desire to avoid even the appearance of taking part with one side or the other in controversies which ought to be locally decided, to make every possible allowance for the circumstances in which you have been placed, and to lighten, as far as I could, the painful consequences to you of the answer which I was compelled to return to the address of the Legislative Council. It is your own act now which leaves me no alternative; you force me to decide between yourself and the petitioners. You place me in the position of having to determine whether you can continue to represent the Queen in a Colony in which you have avowed that none of these gentlemen can ever be received by you as confidential advisers with any other feelings but those of doubt and distrust. It is one of the first duties of the Queen's representative to keep himself, as far as possible, aloof from and above all personal conflicts. He should always so conduct himself as not to be precluded from acting freely with those whom the course of Parliamentary proceedings might present to him as his confidential advisers. While, on the one hand, it is his duty to afford to his actual advisers all fair and just support, consistently with the observance of the law, he ought, on the other hand, to be perfectly free to give the same support to any other Ministers whom it may be necessary for him at any future time to call to his counsels. The Colony is entitled to know that the Governor gives this support to his Ministers for the time being, and that he is able and willing, if the occasion shall arise, to give the same support to others. I regret to say, that in the present instance, you have rendered this impossible. It must be evident to yourself that you occupy a position of personal antagonism towards almost all those whose antecedents point them out as most likely to be available to you in the event of any change of Ministry. This has resulted, as I think, entirely from your own acts, your adoption of a course of conduct which cannot be justified in law, and your strong denunciation, in which I am wholly unable to concur, of those who have objected to that course. It is impossible, I much regret to say, that after this, you can, with advantage, continue to conduct the government of the Colony.

"Looking to your long services, and sincerely desirous to make every allowance for the difficulties of your position, I have been most reluctant to arrive at the decision which, nevertheless, I have been obliged to adopt. I am compelled to advise Her Majesty that you should be relieved of your duties, and the government of the Colony be placed in other hands.

"As soon, therefore, as your convenience will admit of your leaving the Colony, I should wish you to place the government in the hands of General Carey, whose duty it will be to administer it until your successor shall be appointed. I trust that no occasion will arise in which it will be clear to his judgment that the advice of his Ministers for the time being would involve a violation of the law. In such a case it would doubtless be his duty to refuse compliance, and to endeavour to obtain the aid of other Ministers.

"Her

"Her Majesty's Government have no wish to interfere in any questions of purely colonial policy, and only desire that the Colony should be governed in conformity with the principles of responsible and constitutional government, subject always to the paramount authority of the law.

" I have, &c.
(signed) "Edward Cardwell."

We conceive that every dependency of the British Empire is bound in loyalty and duty to respect the decisions of the Queen, as announced through Her Majesty's Secretary of State. In the present instance addresses and petitions were forwarded through the late Governor for presentation to the Queen from various bodies in Victoria, besides the addresses above alluded to, and it may therefore be assumed that the merits of the case submitted for the expression of Her Majesty's decision were fairly represented.

Sir Charles Henry Darling, in his Despatch, No. 130, 24th October 1865, says:—

"4. Referring specially to the statements in the Melbourne petition as a fair type of the rest, and beginning with the paragraph which affirms that the act for which I have been blamed is approved of by the great majority of Her Majesty's subjects in the Colony, I consider those statements to be correct, if I except that which attributes to the Legislative Council certain motives connected with the new Land Act, upon which point I do not possess the means of forming a satisfactory judgment,—"

And in another Despatch of the same date, No. 131, he says:—

"3. A schedule is attached to this Despatch showing the districts and towns at which the meetings were held. I believe that, in conjunction with the addresses to Her Majesty, these documents may be taken as a fair expression of public opinion upon the question to which they relate."

After information of his recall from the Government, and before leaving the Colony, Sir Charles Darling declared his intention of appealing to the British Parliament immediately on his arrival in England against the decision of Her Majesty's Government.

We are assured by the following Despatch of Mr. Cardwell, addressed to, but which only reached Sir Charles Henry Darling after his return to England, that the decision of Her Majesty's Government was not adopted without full deliberation:—

"Sir,

Downing-street, June 1866.

"I have received the Despatch which you addressed to me from Victoria, under date the 25th of April, representing the serious loss to which you have been subjected by your removal from the government of that Colony before half the period had elapsed for which a Colonial Government is usually held.

"You announce your intention of appealing against the grounds on which Her Majesty's Government had arrived at this decision, which you regard as insufficient, and inadequately supported by the facts, and you complain of the terms in which the announcement of your recall was made known to you.

"I did not advise Her Majesty to relieve you from the government of Victoria till your own despatches had satisfied Her Majesty's Government that that step was unavoidable; and although in communicating to you this decision it was my duty to state with clearness the grounds on which it had been adopted, it was my endeavour to make that communication in the language which was least calculated to inflict unnecessary annoyance.

* * * * *

"I do not think it necessary to make any observation upon the intention which you express of appealing against the decision of Her Majesty's Government further than to say that that decision was adopted after full deliberation and with sincere regret, and under a conviction that it was absolutely necessary with a view to the good of the public service.

" I have, &c.
(signed) "Edward Cardwell."

That no such appeal appears to have been entertained justifies us in the conclusion that the grounds of his recall, as laid down in Mr. Cardwell's despatches, were so thoroughly acquiesced in by all parties in the British Parliament that it was hopeless for Sir Charles Darling to expect that that decision could be reversed or even modified.

On the 9th May 1866 the Legislative Assembly resolved to present an address to the Queen, of which the prayer was as follows:—

"We therefore humbly pray Your Majesty to be graciously pleased to sanction the acceptance of the proposed grant to Lady Darling."

The reply to this address was conveyed through Lord Carnarvon, in a despatch dated 8th December 1866, wherein he states:—

"I request you will inform the Speaker of the Assembly that the Address has been laid before the Queen, who was pleased to receive it very graciously, but that I am unable to advise Her Majesty to accede to the request which it conveys.

"The rule that a governor should not receive pecuniary or valuable presents from the inhabitants of the Colony over which he presides, either during the continuance of his office or on leaving it, is expressly laid down in the Colonial Regulations, and for obvious reasons it has always been rigidly enforced. It is plain that such a rule would be merely nugatory if it were held that what the Governor was precluded from receiving might properly be given to his wife.

"It is under these circumstances impossible that Her Majesty should be advised to sanction the literal or substantial violation of this rule by any of her servants, or, on the other hand, that the acceptance of the proposed gift should be regarded otherwise than as a final relinquishment by Sir Charles Darling of that service, and of all the emoluments or expectations attaching to it.

"Governor the Honourable
Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton."

"I am, &c.
(signed) "Carnarvon."

The expression of Her Majesty's inability to sanction the acceptance of this grant is so clear and so decided that, independently of the objection which, after our complaint of the illegal and unconstitutional acts to which Sir Charles H. Darling had made himself a party, your Excellency's advisers must have known to exist in this House to any such grant, we are surprised that they should have brought forward such a vote in any shape, much more that they should have recommended the Legislative Assembly to include it in the Appropriation Bill with the general supplies of the year.

We conceive that to have sanctioned this grant would have been to abandon the course we have previously pursued with reference to the unconstitutional acts of which we have complained.

We desire, however, to submit to your Excellency that this vote ought not, in accordance with Parliamentary usage, to have been included in the Annual Appropriation Bill.

Under the 34th section of the Constitution Act, the usages of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland must be followed, so far as the same are applicable to the proceedings of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly respectively, until other rules or orders shall have been adopted with the consent of both Houses.

The "usage," therefore, of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, where no other rules or orders have been adopted, is under our Constitution Act the "law" here, and as binding upon this Legislature as the Constitution Act itself.

We appointed a Select Committee to search for precedents as to that usage, the result of which is to assure us that a grant like that to which we have referred should be the subject of a separate Bill.

No rules or orders affecting that usage have been adopted by this Legislature.

It appears to have been the practice in many cases after the passing of such Bills to include the amounts thereby provided in the Annual Appropriation Act, and in many others not to include such sums in that Act. But in no case does it seem to have been the usage of the House of Commons to include in the Annual Appropriation Act any amount which there were reasonable grounds for apprehending would be objectionable to the other branch of the Legislature.

The case of Mr. Palmer is remarkably confirmatory of this view, both in itself and in the evidence of such usage, brought out in the discussions to which it gave rise, extending over a period of 16 years.

Mr. Palmer held an appointment in the Post Office, under an agreement with Mr. Pitt, which entitled him to a salary and a per centage upon profits, during his life according to the views entertained by the House of Commons, but during his tenure of office according to the opinion of the House of Lords. He held this office from 1784 to 1793, when he was removed for alleged misconduct, and retired with an annuity of 3,000*L*.

Dissatisfied with this arrangement, he brought his case before the House of Commons in 1797. A Committee to inquire into it was appointed; they brought up a report, but nothing was done upon it at that time. In 1807 the subject was revived, and in June 1808 a Committee of Supply voted the sum of 54,702 *L*. as due to Mr. Palmer for arrears. A separate Bill to secure his future per centage was in the same year sent to the House of Lords, who had, while the Bill was in the House of Commons, made known their wish to have a voice in the question by adopting the form of sending a message to the other branch of the Legislature, requesting that House to communicate a copy of the Report of the Committee appointed to consider of the agreement with Mr. Palmer.

Communications then appear to have passed between the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Perceval) and the Speaker of the House of Commons (Mr. Abbott).

On the 12th June 1808 the latter wrote: "No instance occurs in which the Lords 'have ever amended the Appropriation Acts.'" And again on the 18th of the same month: "If the Lords differ in opinion from the Commons upon the Bill now before 'them, they will of course exercise their right of throwing it out, and upon the expectation that they will hold the same opinion upon the grant of the sum in gross, which has 'been voted by the Commons, it will be for the Commons to consider how they will 'act."

"Now it does not appear to me to be right or fitting for the Commons in such a case to 'surrender or abandon their own vote, or that the apprehension of its being rejected by 'the Lords can justify or excuse them for not maintaining the exercise of their own 'undoubted right in matter of supply. For the Commons to retract, rescind, or give up 'their own absolute and unqualified grant of money by not inserting it in the Appropriation Act, and for such a cause, appears to me, as far as I have had the means of information, to be a manifest departure from the uniform practice of Parliament, and an 'abandonment of the highest privileges of the Commons."

"Viewing the question in this light you will not, I am sure, be surprised that in the 'progress of the proceeding I shall think it my duty in my situation openly to declare 'that opinion, which on every account it will be very painful to me to do."

"Mr.

Mr. Perceval replied ; “ At present I confess that, in the degree in which I feel the necessity of upholding as undoubted the privileges of the Commons with respect to all grants of supply, I feel it important not to mix in any Bill of general supply separate matters of grant, upon which the Lords may reasonably be supposed to entertain a different opinion from the Commons, and upon which they have an unquestionable right to give their negative. When that is likely to be the case, and when the Commons, with their eyes open to such a case, do mix such a grant with their general supply for the services of the year, I conceive they do offer a violence to an undoubted right of the Lords and of the Crown not to have any question of any sort so tacked to the supply as to disable them from exercising an unfettered judgment upon the propriety of the grant itself.”

Mr. Perceval's reply seems to have caused Mr. Speaker Abbott to modify his views, as shown in his letter of the 19th June 1808, and he would appear to have abandoned his intention “ of openly declaring his opinion ” in the House of Commons.

In the debate upon the same matter, Mr. Bankes stated that upon looking back to the Journals he had observed that “ the Lords had in a variety of instances corrected the too profuse liberality of the Commons in granting to individuals on the score of discoveries.”

On the 23rd June 1808 Mr. Perceval moved for a separate Bill on the resolution from Committee of Supply in Palmer's case, and in doing so submitted a number of instances in which that course had been pursued, and added :—

“ The House had a discretion, and it remained to be considered under what circumstances the House would be disposed to proceed by a separate Bill or by including the grant in the Appropriation Act. If no other motive would apply, the course that would be most convenient would be most desirable. In ordinary cases, where there was not likely to be any difference of opinion elsewhere, it might be proper to insert the grant in the Appropriation Act. But if there should be any fair reason to suppose such a difference of opinion to exist in that other quarter, that would be good ground for taking the grant out of the Appropriation Act. The vote proceeded upon an assumption of an agreement between Mr. Pitt and Mr. Palmer, and then assumed that nothing had happened to defeat such contract, and that a Bill should be brought in to carry the contract into effect. That House knew that the other House had the matter under their consideration, by having received a message from it requiring a communication of the evidence upon which they had passed the Bill for granting the annuity to Mr. Palmer.

“ Having, by sending up that Bill to the other House, given it an opportunity of exercising an unrestrained judgment upon one part of the case, they should not by inserting this grant in the Appropriation Bill, reduce the other House to the alternative of either acceding to a grant of which it disapproved, or of rejecting the appropriation of the supplies of the year.

“ The right honourable gentleman then quoted the authority of Mr. Hatsell (vol. iii.) to show that tacking one measure to another for the purpose of forcing another branch of the Legislature to accede to it was highly irregular, and a breach of the practice of Parliament ; but that to do this with a knowledge that the part so tacked was disagreeable to the other branch of the Legislature was highly dangerous and unconstitutional. He admitted that this doctrine had been applied by Mr. Hatsell to the tacking to money bills measures unconnected with the supply, but contended that the principle extended to preclude the House from any course that would reduce the other House to the alternative he had stated. If, therefore, the House should see no reason founded upon Parliamentary usage for declining the course he had to propose, why insert the grant in the Appropriation Act, why clog the supplies of the year with a measure that would endanger their passing the other House ? The proposition upon which the grant rested was one on which not only the present House of Commons entertained a difference of opinion, but a former House of Commons had rejected. And there was as much reason to think that any other assembly would differ from the present House of Commons as that the former House of Commons had differed from it. If ever there had been a case in which the grant should be carried into effect by a separate Act, it was the present. He should ask any honourable member to show any case in which two votes, founded on the same principle, had been carried into effect, one by a separate Bill, the other by insertion in the Appropriation Act. If there was no similar case, then this was a new case, and it was competent to the House to exercise its discretion upon it. The House would therefore decide whether, under all the circumstances of the case, it would prefer the separate or the general Appropriation Act. He should move that a Bill be brought in pursuant to the resolution of the Committee of Supply.”

Mr. Rose said, “ that if there was a necessity for more precedents he could certainly produce them. The object of this motion was to give the Lords an opportunity of judging of the merits of Mr. Palmer's claim. The majority of grants made to individuals were by separate Bills, and not by a clause in the Appropriation Act.”

Mr. Canning “ insisted on the constitutional impropriety of sending the present business to the Lords otherwise than in a separate Bill.”

One fact is remarkable in this case, namely, that whilst a large majority of the Commons were in favour of Mr. Palmer's receiving the money he claimed, a greater number were in favour of proceeding by separate Bill, for the avowed purpose of affording to the Lords an opportunity of considering that grant distinctly from the other grants of the year.

Mr. Perceval's motion was carried on these grounds, and the principles then maintained have not since been disturbed so far as we can ascertain.

In subsequent years separate Bills were sent up to secure Mr. Palmer's claims, and in 1812 and in 1813 those Bills were rejected by the Lords, no one in the House of Commons proposing to insert any grant to Mr. Palmer in the Appropriation Bills for those years; and, finally, in 1813, a separate Bill, acceptable to both Houses, was introduced and became law.

The "usage," therefore, of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland being established, we submit that in accordance with the 34th section of the Constitution Act, the vote of 20,000 *l.* to Lady Darling ought not to have been inserted in the Appropriation Bill, as we are thereby precluded from expressing the independent opinion to which we are entitled.

In rejecting the Bill, however, we have had no intention of withholding our assent to the general supplies for the service of the year, and if the vote to which we have taken exception should be withdrawn we should gladly acquiesce in passing the ordinary Appropriation Bill.

It may not, perhaps, be out of place to point out another objection to the Appropriation Bill of this year in the form in which it has been sent to us. A similar form was used in the preamble of a Supply Bill in 1866, and was one of the subjects referred to a conference between the two Houses on the 12th April 1866. The exclusive right to grant money was then claimed by the Assembly. After considerable discussion it was abandoned. A new form of preamble, mutually agreed upon by both Houses, was adopted, and was prefixed, not only to the Supply Bill but also to the Appropriation Bill of last year. To return, therefore, to the abandoned form, we can only consider a breach of the compact then made, and as tending to destroy that feeling of amity between the two Houses which we had hoped had been restored and would for the future be maintained.

We assure your Excellency we are not insensible to the suffering and confusion which the rejection of an Appropriation Bill may cause; but we feel that it is necessary to confront them rather than destroy the independence of any branch of the Legislature, and break down any of those constitutional forms which are the best securities for the real liberty of the people.

(signed) *J. F. Palmer,*
President of the Legislative Council.

Enclosure 2, in No. 5.

(B.)

Encl. 2, in No. 5. *J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON,*
Governor.

THE Governor accepts with gratification as Her Majesty's representative, and he thanks the Legislative Council for the assurance of their loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty's throne and person, and he desires to express to them his appreciation of their zeal for the maintenance of this Colony as an integral portion of the British Empire.

It is the duty of the Governor to receive with respect the advice and assistance of both the deliberative Houses of the Legislature, and the Legislative Council may be assured that he is at all times anxious to give to their representations and recommendations the attention which their authority justly deserves.

The Governor receives with entire confidence the assurances of the Legislative Council that they are not insensible to the suffering and confusion resulting from the rejection of an Appropriation Bill, and that they have had no intention of withholding their assent to the general supplies for the service of the year. At the same time he cannot help expressing his regret that the Government is incapacitated by the rejection of the Appropriation Bill from conducting the administration of public affairs, as regards the satisfaction of undisputed pecuniary claims, in the usual and strictly constitutional manner.

The Governor would observe that this incapacity now attaches indisputably and admittedly to the Queen's Government in this Colony, without reference to the political opinions of those who may hold office as the responsible advisers of the Governor; and he would further observe, that while the distribution of supreme power among different bodies is an essential principle of the British Constitution, and of all other political constitutions formed upon its model, it is admitted by every constitutional authority that such constitutions can exist only by the forbearance of the different bodies among whom the supreme power is thus distributed.

The Governor trusts that, by the exercise of a wise moderation, combined action may be restored to Parliament, and the Executive Government thereby relieved from their existing inability to perform their duties in meeting the requirements of the public service to the Crown and to the people.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
2 September 1867.

— No. 6. —

(No. 131.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 September 1867.

(Received, 16 November 1867.)

(Answered, No. 86, 22 November 1867, page 48.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to report that I prorogued the Parliament of Victoria on the 10th instant, and I beg leave to transmit to your Grace a copy of the speech which I addressed to both Houses upon that occasion.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*.

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 6.

Governor Sir J.
H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

27 Sept. 1867.

Enclosure in No. 6.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

Encl. in No. 6.

I MEET you on this occasion for the purpose of proroguing Parliament with a view to its early re-assembling in another Session.

This step is taken by me because Parliament is disabled, during the present Session, from considering a measure for the appropriation of the supplies for the year.

I now, in Her Majesty's name, declare this Parliament to be prorogued until Wednesday, the 18th day of the present month of September.

J. H. T. Manners Sutton.

— No. 7. —

(No. 132.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 September 1867.

(Received, 16 November 1867.)

(Answered, No. 84, 22 November 1867, page 48.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace, herein enclosed, a copy of the speech with which, on the 18th instant, I opened the fourth Session of the fifth Parliament of this Colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*.

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 7.

The Hon. Sir J.
H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

27 Sept. 1867.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

Encl. in No. 7.

I REGRET that after your protracted labours during the year it should be necessary to require your attendance thus early in another Session of Parliament.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I have directed that the Estimates for the year shall again be laid before you, and I rely upon your making adequate provision for the requirements of the public service, as well as for the further application of the sums granted during the last Session.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

The condition of the English money market encourages my advisers to believe that a loan might be obtained on favourable terms for the extension of railways, and for the completion of the works already undertaken for the supply of water to country districts. Should the state of public affairs render it prudent to ask for a loan for these purposes, a Bill will be introduced to authorise it.

Your joint endeavours to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the questions to be considered by you, will, I most earnestly trust, be blessed with success; and I do not doubt that, following the example of the mother country, the Legislature of Victoria will show their hearty appreciation of the free constitution which the Colony enjoys, and their capacity to administer it for the benefit of the people at large.

Melbourne, 18 September 1867.

— No. 8. —

No. 8.

(No. 133.)

Governor Sir J.
H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

27 Sept. 1867.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 September 1867.

(Received, 16 November 1867.)

(Answered, No. 84, 22 November 1867, page 48.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace, herein enclosed, a copy of the address of the Legislative Assembly in answer to the speech with which I opened Parliament on the 18th instant, together with a copy of my reply to that address.

I have, &c.

(signed) J. H. T. Manners Sutton.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham
and Chandos, &c. &c.

Enclosure 1.
Enclosure 2.

Enclosure 1, in No. 8.

(A.)

Encl. 1, in No. 8. To his Excellency the Honourable Sir John Henry Thomas Manners Sutton, Knight
Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander
in Chief in and over the Colony of Victoria, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, Her Majesty's faithful subjects, the members of the Legislative Assembly in
Parliament assembled, desire to express to your Excellency our continued loyalty to the
Throne.

We beg to inform your Excellency that, notwithstanding our protracted labours during
the year, we shall be prepared to devote ourselves to the consideration of the measures
which require our attendance thus early in another session of Parliament.

We thank your Excellency for having directed the estimates for the year to be again
laid before us, and assure your Excellency that we shall cheerfully make adequate pro-
vision for the requirements of the public service, and for the further application of the
sums granted during the last session.

We beg to inform your Excellency that we share in the belief that the condition of the
English money market offers an opportunity for obtaining a loan upon favourable terms
for the extension of railways, and for the completion of the works already undertaken for
the supply of water to country districts, and that should the state of public affairs render
it prudent to ask for a loan, we shall give our best consideration to a Bill to authorise it.

We assure your Excellency that we most earnestly trust that our endeavours to arrive
at a satisfactory solution of the questions to be considered by us will be blessed with
success; and that we do not doubt that, following the example of the mother country,
the Legislature of Victoria will show their hearty appreciation of the free constitution
which the Colony enjoys, and their capacity to administer it for the benefit of the people
at large.

Enclosure 2, in No. 8.

(B.)

Encl. 2, in No. 8

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,
I THANK you for the expression of your continued loyalty to the Throne, and I rely with confidence on your assurance that a satisfactory solution of the questions to be considered by you will be the object of your earnest attention and endeavours.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
20 September 1867.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

— No. 9. —

(No. 134.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 September 1867.

(Received, 16 November 1867.)

(Answered, No. 84, 22 November 1867, page 48.)

No. 9.

Governor Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B., to the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

27 Sept. 1867.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace, herein enclosed, a copy of the Address of the Legislative Council in answer to the speech with which I opened Parliament, on the 18th instant, together with a copy of my reply to that Address.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

His Grace the
Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 9.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir *John Henry Thomas Manners Sutton*, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of *Victoria*, &c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 9.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of *Victoria*, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach your Excellency with renewed assurances of our unabated loyalty to Her Majesty's throne and person.

We assure your Excellency that we concur with your Excellency in regretting that it should be necessary so soon after the late protracted Session to require our attendance in another Session of Parliament.

We desire to remind your Excellency that this necessity has not arisen from any circumstances originating in this House.

As we have already informed your Excellency, we are, and always have been, desirous to give our assent to the ordinary Bill for appropriating the supplies for the service of the year, if the proposed grant to *Lady Darling* were omitted.

We regret that there should have been such a miscalculation of the cost of carrying out to completion the works already undertaken for the supply of water to country districts as to render a further loan necessary.

We shall willingly concur in any well-devised measures upon the subject.

The great falling off in the revenue of the public railways, the revival of which, in the absence of any scheme of immigration we have no encouragement to expect, does not lead us to think that they can be extended at the present time without a large and undue increase of taxation.

We shall be glad, however, to give our best consideration to any scheme that may be submitted to the Legislature for an extension of the public railways.

We assure your Excellency that no endeavours shall be wanting on our part to bring to a satisfactory conclusion the questions to be considered by the Legislature; but we can scarcely hope for harmonious action in the Legislature so long as, in deviation from the example of the mother country, the Appropriation Bill for the year continues to be made the instrument of attempts to coerce this House on questions of public policy, which we believe should, in accordance with the Constitution, be submitted in separate Bills.

And that his Excellency had been pleased to make thereto the following reply :

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
I recognise, and have always recognised, the dutiful loyalty of the Legislative Council, and I receive with satisfaction the assurance that no endeavours will be wanting on your part to bring to a satisfactory conclusion the questions to be considered by the Legislature.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
23 September 1867.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton,*

— No. 10. —

No. 10.

(No. 135.)

Governor Sir J.
H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

27 Sept. 1867.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B., to His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
27 September 1867.

(Received, 16 November 1867.)

(Answered, No. 90, 26 November 1867, page 48.)

My Lord Duke,

IN my Despatches (two), marked in the margin, I have endeavoured to submit to your Grace a continuous, although brief, narrative of the course of events here in connection with the proposed grant of 20,000 *l.* to Lady Darling, and of the steps successively taken by me to meet the varying circumstances of my position.

27 July, No. 102,
page 2.
27 Aug., No. 115,
page 4.
20,000 *l.*

Enclosure 1.
28 August 1867.

2. When the last of these two Despatches was written by me (on the 27th August), Mr. Fraser was still engaged in the mission which I had entrusted to him. But in the evening of the following day (the 28th August) I received from him a memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed marked (A.), announcing to me the failure and his relinquishment of that mission.

Enclosure 2.

3. I should here state that I learnt from Mr. Fraser that some of the leaders of the majority in the Legislative Council (which had rejected the Appropriation Bill) had suggested to him the reference, as explained in the enclosed memorandum, marked (B.), of the questions at issue between the two Houses to Lord Eversley; but that having communicated this proposal to the leaders of the majority in the Legislative Assembly, it was at once and wholly rejected by them.

4. This proposal, therefore, could not be regarded by me as affording any prospect of solving the existing difficulties and dissensions between the two Houses, nor was it communicated to me by Mr. Fraser as affording any such prospect, but simply as explanatory of the respective views and positions of the two political parties, between whom he had in vain endeavoured to mediate.

5. The failure, and relinquishment by Mr. Fraser, of the mission which I had entrusted to him, led me to the conclusion that under the then existing circumstances, at least any further endeavour on my part to restore combined action between the two deliberative branches of the Legislature would be fruitless, while a continuance of those endeavours might, and probably would, have involved me in the estimation of one or other of the contending parties, if not of both, in the contest in which they were engaged. And the only other alternatives presented for my choice were, firstly, the re-instatement in their former position, as my Responsible Advisers, of the administration whose resignations were still in my hands, but had not been definitely accepted by me; and, secondly, the definite acceptance of those resignations, and the selection by me of new Responsible Advisers from the ranks of the opposition.

Enclosure 3.
29 August 1867.

6. The reasons which induced me to adopt the first of these two alternatives are explained shortly, but I hope with sufficient clearness, in the memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (C.), in which I requested the Chief Secretary and his colleagues (then holding office until their successors might be appointed) to regard themselves as occupying their former positions as my Responsible Advisers.

7. Your

7. Your Grace will observe that in the reply of the Chief Secretary (copies of that reply, and of my rejoinder to it, are enclosed, marked D. and E.) to the above-mentioned memorandum, the introduction of a temporary Supply Bill, providing for the current expenses of the Government, was recommended, and accordingly a Bill of this character, placing the sum of 300,000 *l.* at the disposal of the Government, was introduced. And although the Bill did not contain any restriction not usually included in Supply Bills, as introduced into the House of Commons (on the model of which Supply Bills it was framed), it was clearly understood that the sum to be placed at the disposal of the Government should be devoted exclusively to certain purposes, such as the payment of salaries, and of other pressing current expenditure.

Enclosure 4.
29 August 1867.
Enclosure 5.
29 August 1867
300,000 *l.*

8. And the Supply Bill, therefore, when viewed in connection with the understanding recognised by both parties, in both Houses, as well as by myself, partook at least of the character of a partial and limited Appropriation Bill; and although its introduction under the then existing circumstances was not strictly regular, inasmuch as the subsequent introduction, during the same session, of an Appropriation Bill had been rendered impossible by the rejection of the former Appropriation Bill, that fact rendered a "Supply Bill" the only available means of obtaining during the session a Parliamentary sanction (and the sanction thus obtained was legally valid, although not constitutionally complete) for expenditure most urgently required. I should add that it was not contended that the Supply Bill would supersede the necessity for an Act appropriating the supplies in a subsequent session, or even the necessity for revoting the whole of the supplies for the year.

9. Objection was taken in both Houses to the Supply Bill on the grounds to which I have referred, and the Legislative Council, moreover, objected to the form of the preamble of the Bill as advancing, on the part of the Legislative Assembly, a claim to authority in financial legislation inconsistent with the authority claimed by the Legislative Council. But eventually the Bill passed both Houses, the Legislative Council having placed on record a statement, a copy of which is enclosed, marked (F.), of the circumstances under which, and the considerations upon which, they passed the measure.

Enclosure 6.
5 February 1867.

10. Having assented to all the Bills (including the Supply Bill) which had passed both Houses, I prorogued, on the 10th instant, the Legislature until the 18th instant. Since the commencement on the 18th instant of the new session, both Houses have been engaged in preliminary business, and the questions which led to the prorogation have not been discussed otherwise than incidentally.

11. The respective positions of the two Houses, in connection with these questions, might, therefore, perhaps be regarded as remaining unchanged; and I am not in a position to state that any means of reconciling the differences existing between them have as yet been adopted by both, or even discovered by either.

12. But unless I am very much mistaken, there is a growing desire on both sides to reconcile their differences in a manner consistent with the dignity of both Houses; and I venture to entertain the hope, if not the belief, that the mutual endeavours of the contending parties to attain this object will be successful.

13. Meanwhile it is gratifying to me to be enabled to state that the Government has, notwithstanding the difficulties and embarrassments of the position, adhered strictly to the law, and that political antagonism has not generally been permitted to degenerate into personal animosity.

14. It is right that I should add, that the course which I have thought it my duty to pursue has not received the approval of all parties, for in some quarters it has been contended, that when the Appropriation Bill was rejected by the Legislative Council I should at once have placed myself, without reserve, in the hands of the party (political) to whose opinions effect had been given by the majority of that House. But I am confident that there does not exist in any quarter the belief that I have been actuated by any motives of partisanship, or personal favour or disfavour, or the feelings which would naturally result from the existence of any such impression.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 10.

(A.)

Encl. 1, in No. 10. MR. FRASER has the honour to inform his Excellency the Governor that he has placed himself in communication with leading members of both branches of the Legislature, with a view to a settlement of existing embarrassments, and he regrets to state that his efforts have been unsuccessful.

Aldowrie, St. Kilda,
28 August 1867.

Enclosure 2, in No. 10.

(B.)

Encl. 2, in No. 10. THAT it be referred to Lord Eversley to decide whether the House of Commons has in any instance since Palmer's case, and prior to November 1855, acted in contravention of the principles acted upon in that case.

That the vote be withdrawn for the present, and reinstated in the Appropriation Bill of next year, if Lord Eversley answers the above question in the affirmative.

The facts of the present difference to be stated by each House according to its own views.

That a separate Bill, or a vote in the Appropriation Act, be agreed to for paying Sir Charles Darling the arrears of salary, with interest at 10 per cent., the amount to be ultimately deducted from the 20,000*l.* if inserted in the Appropriation Bill.

Enclosure 3 in No. 10.

(C.)

Encl. 3, in No. 10.

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

THE Governor informs the Chief Secretary and his colleagues that, in accordance with the intention communicated to them in his memorandum of the 26th instant, he placed himself in communication with the Honourable Mr. Fraser, and he now lays before them a copy of the memorandum in which he requested, on the 27th instant, Mr. Fraser's advice and assistance, and of the memorandum received by the Governor yesterday evening, in which Mr. Fraser announced that his endeavours to promote a settlement of existing embarrassments had been unsuccessful.

The Governor thinks it right to state frankly to the Chief Secretary and his colleagues, that the principal object which he had in view in placing himself in communication with gentlemen who had voted in the Legislative Council for the rejection of the Appropriation Bill was to discover from them whether the formation of a new administration would tend to remove or mitigate existing embarrassments, and to promote harmonious action between the two deliberative chambers of the Legislature; and if he had been able to arrive at the conclusion, or even to entertain the expectation that these objects would have been attained or promoted by a change of Government, he would have regarded it as his duty to have at once definitely accepted the tendered resignations of the Chief Secretary and his colleagues, and to have called others to the Council Board.

But the Governor has not discovered any grounds for arriving at such a conclusion, or for entertaining any such expectation; and, as he stated in his memorandum to Mr. Fraser, he never contemplated the simple exchange by him of a Government supported by a majority in the Legislative Assembly, but by a minority in the Legislative Council, for a Government with a majority in the Legislative Council, but numerically weak in the Legislative Assembly, as affording in itself, and by itself, any prospect of mitigating either existing or impending embarrassments and complications.

The Governor, therefore, now repeats his invitation to the Chief Secretary and his colleagues to regard themselves as occupying the same position, as his responsible advisers, as that which they held before they tendered to him their resignations.

(signed) J. H. T. Manners Sutton.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
29 August 1867.

Enclosure 4, in No. 10.

(D.)

Encl. 4, in No. 10.

MINUTE for his Excellency the Governor.

MR. M'CULLOCH has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Governor's minute of to day, in which his Excellency informs Mr. M'Culloch that, in accordance with his memorandum dated the 26th instant, he asked for the advice and assistance of the Honourable Mr. Fraser, and that Mr. Fraser is unable to recommend any course which, in his

Excellency's

27 August 1867.

Excellency's opinion, would tend to remove or mitigate existing embarrassments, and to promote harmonious action between the two deliberative chambers of the Legislature.

Under these circumstances, his Excellency is pleased again to invite Mr. McCulloch and his colleagues to resume the position which they held as his responsible advisers.

Mr. McCulloch and his colleagues feel that, after his Excellency's communication, no course, consistent with their duty as public men, remains open to them but to accept his Excellency's invitation, and to re-submit the advice which they offered to him in Mr. McCulloch's minute of the 22nd instant, that the Legislature be prorogued, in order that an Appropriation Bill for the year may be introduced.

It is proper to inform his Excellency that, in the opinion of the Government, the Appropriation Bill, as rejected by the Council, should be re-submitted, and that, pending the prorogation, Parliament should be asked to provide for the payment of the current expenses of the Government.

(signed) *James McCulloch.*

29 August 1867.

Enclosure 5, in No. 10.

(E.)

MEMORANDUM for the Honourable the Chief Secretary.

Encl. 5, in No. 10.

THE Governor has received the memorandum of this day's date, signed by Mr. McCulloch, on behalf of himself and his colleagues, and he accepts the advice tendered to him in that memorandum by his responsible advisers.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Government Offices, 29 August 1867.

Enclosure 6, in No. 10.

(F.)

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council.

Encl. 6, in No. 10.

Thursday, 5th September 1867.

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE BILL (3.)—The Order of the day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time, being read, the debate was resumed.

At twenty minutes to seven o'clock the House was adjourned during pleasure.

At twenty minutes to eight o'clock the President resumed the Chair.

Amendment moved by the Honourable W. H. F. Mitchell, That the following words be inserted in the question after the word "That," "notwithstanding the enactment of this Bill without an intention to appropriate the supplies during the present session is at variance with the spirit of the Constitution, and in full reliance that the vote which caused the rejection of the Appropriation Bill will not be paid out of the money now to be made available, and in the hope that his Excellency's advisers will not again recommend a course which can only lead to future complications."

Debate ensued.

Question, That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted; put and passed.

Question, that, notwithstanding the enactment of this Bill, without an intention to appropriate the supplies during the present session is at variance with the spirit of the Constitution, and in full reliance that the vote which caused the rejection of the Appropriation Bill will not be paid out of the money now to be made available, and in the hope that his Excellency's advisers will not again recommend a course which can only lead to future complications, this Bill be now read a second time; put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Honourable G. W. Cole moved, That the Bill be now considered in Committee of the whole Council.

Question put and passed.

Question, That the President do now leave the Chair; put and passed.

The President left the Chair.

The Chairman of Committees reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and had agreed to the same without amendment.

The Honourable G. W. Cole moved, that the report of the Committee be now adopted.

Question put and passed.

The President having reported that the Chairman of Committees had certified that the fair print of the Bill was in accordance with the Bill as reported, the Bill, on the motion of the Honourable G. W. Cole, was read a third time and passed.

The Honourable G. W. Cole moved, That the title of the Bill be "An Act to apply the sum of 300,000 £. out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1867."

Question put and passed.

Ordered, That a message be sent to the Legislative Assembly, to acquaint them that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

— No. 11. —

No. 11.

(No. 148.)

Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

26 Oct. 1867.

• Page 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
K.C.B., to His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

Government Offices Melbourne, 26 October 1867.

(Received, 14th December 1867.)

(Answered, No. 1, 1st January 1868, page 49.)

My Lord Duke,

IN my despatch of the 27th ultimo, No. 135,* I had the honour to notify to your Grace the commencement of a new session, and I expressed a belief, that although no step had been taken in either House calculated to affect in any way the questions at issue between them, there was a growing desire, on both sides, to reconcile their differences in a manner consistent with the dignity of both Houses.

2. And I was, I thought, fully justified in expressing the hope, if not the belief, that the mutual endeavours of the contending parties to attain this object would be successful, because I had reason to know that my responsible advisers (or at least some of them) were satisfied that a separate message from the Governor to the Legislative Council, in accordance with the form of similar messages in Great Britain, requesting their concurrence in the proposed grant to Lady Darling, would be responded to by them in such a manner as would terminate the differences on the subject referred to in that message.

3. And that this would have been the case if the Legislative Council had expressed (as was expected) their intention to concur in the grant, there could be no doubt; for it is difficult to conceive that, under these circumstances, any objection could have been raised to the inclusion (according to frequent although not unbroken practice in Great Britain) by the Legislative Assembly of the vote in the Appropriation Bill.

4. With this explanation your Grace will at once understand the object which my responsible advisers had in view in submitting to me the memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (A.), and my position when it was submitted to me. And whatever hesitation I might have felt under the circumstances in taking any step which might be regarded, or even misconstrued, as a deviation from that personal neutrality as regards the merits of the proposed grant to Lady Darling which I have prescribed for myself, I was of opinion that, upon the whole, the public interests would be best served by accepting the advice tendered to me in the above-mentioned memorandum. Having arrived at this decision, I announced it to my advisers in the memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (B.), in which memorandum I guarded myself against the misinterpretation to which I have referred.

5. Copies of the messages, transmitted by me, in accordance with the recommendation of my advisers, to the two Houses respectively, are enclosed, marked (C.) and (D.), and your Grace will observe that these messages did not express an approval of the proposed grant in the abstract; on the other hand, I may state to your Grace that the grounds upon which the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the grant was recommended by me in the message to them would have been regarded by me, if I had been a member of the Legislative Council, as justifying me, under existing circumstances, in assenting to, or at least in abstaining from, opposing a grant which, as a member of the Legislative Assembly, I should have felt it my duty to oppose.

6. And in expressing this opinion (which recognises a distinction between the functions of the Upper and those of the Lower House), I do not infer that the Upper House is simply to register the decrees of the Lower, and I have, I believe, done no more than express my concurrence in the principles and practice which regulate the proceedings of the two deliberative branches of the Imperial Legislature, and have maintained harmony between them.

7. The reply, however, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (E.), of the Legislative Council did not realise the expectations which I had been led to entertain respecting it. And as it appeared to me that that reply (and the same

remark

Encl. 1, in No. 11.
2 Oct. 1867.

Encl. 2, in No. 11.
2 Oct. 1867.

Encl. 3, in No. 11.
Encl. 4, in No. 11.

Encl. 5, in No. 11.

remark is perhaps applicable to the address of the Legislative Council of the 22nd August) might be regarded as inferring that the representative of the Crown was responsible for the mode and form in which the Legislative Assembly might communicate to the other House the decision at which they might arrive on matters considered by them in their legislative capacity, I thought it desirable at once to disclaim this responsibility in a message, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (F.).

*Vide Enclosure to
Despatch, Sir
Henry Manners
Sutton to Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos, 27 Feb.,
No. 130.*

Encl. 6, in No. 11.

8. And I should, perhaps, state to your Grace, in connection with this message, that great stress had been laid on the course adopted by Mr. Percival in 1808, in moving for a separate Bill for giving effect to a proposed grant to Mr. Palmer, that my attention had been specially called to this precedent in the address of the Legislative Council of the 22nd August, and that, in designating as a question of Parliamentary "discretion" the question brought under my notice in the concluding paragraph of the address of the Legislative Council of the 9th October, I adopted the word used by Mr. Percival, who, in urging the House of Commons to embody the vote to Mr. Palmer in a separate Bill, stated that "the House had a discretion, and it remained to be considered under what circumstances the House would be disposed to proceed, by a separate Bill, or by including the grant in the Appropriation Bill."

*Vide Enclosure G.,
Despatch, 27 Feb.,
No. 130.*

9. The Legislative Assembly did not reply by address to the message, marked (D.), transmitted to them, but proceeded to re-vote a sum of 20,000 £. 20,000. to Lady Darling. This vote was contested, but was carried by a majority of 39 to 10. The other items of supply for the year were also re-voted, and without opposition.

10. Before the Appropriation Bill was introduced, a motion in the terms set forth in the enclosure, marked (G.), was proposed. The success of this motion would of course have removed one of the two objections taken by the Legislative Council to the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly in connection with the proposed grant to Lady Darling, and the grant itself would have been the only point in dispute. Moreover, the Appropriation Bill, not containing the grant to Lady Darling, would, I presume, have passed the Legislative Council. But the motion was not seconded, and, therefore, fell to the ground. The Appropriation Bill, including the grant of 20,000 £. to Lady Darling, was then brought in, and passed (on the 15th October) through all its stages in one night, and without a division; and on the following day (the 16th October) the Bill (Appropriation) was rejected in the Legislative Council, by a majority of 20 to 5.

Encl. 7, in No. 11.

11. Some days elapsed before any further step was taken, but on the 22nd instant (last Tuesday) the Memorandum (of which a copy is enclosed, marked (H.)) was submitted to me by my responsible advisers. Now two alternatives were presented for my consideration in this Memorandum, and I do not hesitate to state to your Grace that to the first, namely, that of acquiescing in a condition of affairs under which no Parliamentary supplies, either temporary or permanently appropriated, would be available for the requirements of the Queen's Government, I could not give even an involuntary assent while there was a prospect, however remote, of obtaining these supplies by any legitimate means.

*Encl. 8, in No. 11.
22 Oct. 1867.*

12. But there was a third course open to me. I might have rejected the advice of those who held the position of my responsible advisers, and have called their opponents to the Council Board. But it was my imperative duty to consider, before I took any such step, deliberately and impartially, not only the probable, but also the possible, consequences of such a step. For in taking that step I should have exercised, and for the first time during this crisis, in favour of one of the contending parties (namely, that installed by me in office), the prerogative intrusted to my keeping as the representative of the Crown.

13. And I must beg permission to remark, that here, as (according to my experience) in other colonies under responsible Government, the question as to which party shall be in office, when the Legislature is dissolved, is regarded as far more important than in Great Britain.

14. I had then to consider, firstly, whether a change of Government would afford any prospect of restoring harmony between the Legislative Council and the

the existing Legislative Assembly. This question had been already considered, anxiously and deliberately, by me when I consulted Mr. Fellows, and I had then formed the opinion (and acted upon it) that no such prospect would be afforded by a change of Government. Indeed I then arrived at the conclusion, that the first and immediate result of such a step would be the refusal of supplies by the Legislative Assembly.

15. Nothing which has occurred since has altered that opinion; on the contrary, it has been confirmed by the course of events, and by the expressed opinions of the majority of the Lower House since it was first formed.

16. And when, therefore, the Memorandum (of the 22nd October) of my advisers was submitted to me, I felt that, dismissing from consideration the alternative, inadmissible to me while there was any prospect of escaping from it, of acquiescing in a condition of affairs under which no Parliamentary supplies would be available, even in the future, for meeting the requirements of the Queen's Government, the real question which I had to decide was, whether I should acquiesce in the recommendation of my advisers, and dissolve or dismissing them, place in the hands of their opponents, either before or without an attempt, which I was convinced would be ineffectual, to obtain supplies from the existing Legislative Assembly, the advantages which both parties believe, probably with some reason, to attach to the possession of office at the time of a dissolution.

17. Now, in considering this question (and it is always one of great embarrassment to Colonial Governors, because it is idle to hope that both parties will be satisfied), I was not, I assure your Grace, actuated by any feeling of favouritism to either of the contending parties. My decision, which was in favour of the existing Government, was founded simply and exclusively on the ground that I saw no sufficient reason for depriving them of the advantages belonging to the position which they already occupied.

18. If I had been of opinion that their opponents would, if placed in power, have commanded a majority in the Legislative Assembly on the questions in dispute between the two houses, I might have taken a different course. But it is unnecessary to discuss that contingency, for I have been unable to arrive at the belief that it was in any degree probable; and I felt then, that if I had by rejecting the advice submitted to me in the Memorandum (of the 22nd October) of my advisers called their opponents to office, I should, unless I had been prepared to reject similar advice in the course of a few days from the new Government (in which case it would have been my duty to request the dismissed Ministers to resume office), have simply transferred the advantages of the dissolution from the majority in the Legislative Assembly to the majority of the Legislative Council. And I need scarcely state to your Grace, that if a new Government under such circumstances failed, as I believe that it would have failed, to secure a majority in the new Legislative Assembly, the position of the Governor would not be regarded by the majority as one of neutrality.

19. And in the absence of instructions from the Secretary of State, and when the question at issue is one on which neither the law, nor the Royal instructions, render it necessary for the representative of the Crown to take a decided stand, it is, I conceive, my first duty to abstain from taking any step which would identify me with either or any of the contending political parties in the Colony.

20. I therefore accepted in a Memorandum (of which a copy is enclosed, marked (I.)) the advice tendered to me in the Memorandum (of the 22nd instant, marked (H.)), signed by the Chief Secretary on behalf of himself and his colleagues.

21. This advice, and my acceptance of it, was notified to the Legislative Assembly on the same day (the 22nd August) by the Chief Secretary; and on the same day a motion, of which notice had been previously given, was made in the terms set forth in the enclosure marked (J.), deprecating a dissolution under existing circumstances. This motion, however, was rejected by a majority of 34 to 20, and on the following day (the 23rd instant) a Supply Bill (with a view to a dissolution) for meeting temporarily the most urgent claims on the Government was introduced.

22. Objections were taken, on legal as well as on constitutional grounds, to
this

Encl. 9, in No. 11.
23 Oct. 1867.

Encl. 10, in No. 11.

this Bill ; although it was stated, distinctly and authoritatively, that it would not be used to cover any expenditure on which there was any difference of opinion. But it passed the Legislative Assembly (on the 24th instant) without a division, and it will be transmitted to the Legislative Council on Tuesday next (the 29th instant), to which day that House had adjourned on Thursday last (the 24th instant), before the Bill was passed by the Legislative Assembly.

23. I think that it would be premature to enter into any discussion of, or to express any opinion with regard to the objections urged in the Legislative Assembly against this Bill ; but I may say that, so far as I am aware of the character of these twofold objections, those which were founded on the legality of the Bill applied with equal force to every Supply Bill (of which there has been, I believe, always one at least in every Session for the last six or seven years), and that the objections to the constitutionality of the Bill were equally applicable to the Supply Bill which was (as I had the honour to inform your Grace in my Despatch of the 27th September, No. 135 *) passed by both Houses, and assented to by me a few weeks ago. * Page 24.

24. I trust that this narrative of current events will place your Grace in possession of not only the course which I have pursued, but also of the motives by which I have been actuated, and the principles by which I have been guided.

The same motives and the same principles will guide my future conduct, but I cannot conceal from myself, and I do not conceal from your Grace the fact, not the less certain because it is lamentable, that a conflict such as that which is now in progress strains the constitution of the Colony, and I cannot assert that the constitution will endure this strain if it should be prolonged.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 11.

(A.)

MINUTE for His Excellency the Governor.

Encl. 1, in No. 11.

THE Cabinet have carefully considered as to the ways in which the proposals for the supplies of the year may be submitted to Parliament.

It appears that there are cases in which, where the aid of Parliament is sought by the Crown, messages are sent to both Houses, by which the Commons are asked to make the necessary provision, and the Lords to concur in the grant made by the Lower House.

The Cabinet desire to take this course with the Estimates about to be submitted to Parliament, and beg leave to advise that messages be sent, recommending the grant to Lady Darling accordingly.

It is unnecessary to inform his Excellency that the Government propose no departure from the course already adopted of including this grant in the Appropriation Bill.

(signed) *James M^c Culloch.*

Chief Secretary's Office, 2 October 1867.

Enclosure 2, in No. 11.

(B.)

THE Governor has received the Memorandum of this day's date, signed by the Chief Secretary, on behalf of himself and his colleagues. Encl. 2, in No. 11.

He has already recommended (in the course of the past Session), on the advice of his responsible advisers, Parliament to provide for the payment of the proposed grant to Lady Darling, but the recommendation was conveyed in the message which accompanied the Estimates, and therefore addressed to the Legislative Assembly alone.

It is now proposed that the above-mentioned grant should be recommended by the Governor to both Houses, and therefore, in accordance with Parliamentary practice, in a separate message to each.

The Governor does not understand that this advice is intended to, or that his adoption of it will alter his constitutional position in connection with the proposed grant, as explained in his Memorandum of the 18th July, and he accepts, and is prepared to act upon it.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

2 October 1867.

Enclosure 3, in No. 11.

(C.)

Encl. 3, in No. 11.

J. H. T. Manners Sutton, Governor.

THE Governor, in accordance with resolutions of the Legislative Assembly, and having been informed by the Secretary of State that Sir Charles Darling, in concluding a lengthened correspondence on the subject, has elected to relinquish finally the colonial service of the Crown, recommends the Legislative Council to concur in a provision for the payment to Lady Darling of the sum in anticipation of receiving which Sir Charles Darling has thus retired from the colonial service of Her Majesty.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
October 1867.

Enclosure 4, in No. 11.

(D.)

Encl. 4, in No. 11.

J. H. T. Manners Sutton, Governor.

Message, No. 2.

THE Governor, in accordance with resolutions of the Legislative Assembly, and having been informed by the Secretary of State that Sir Charles Darling, in concluding a lengthened correspondence on the subject with him, has elected to relinquish finally the colonial service of the Crown, recommends the Legislative Assembly to provide for the payment to Lady Darling of the sum in anticipation of receiving which Sir Charles Darling has thus retired from the colonial service of Her Majesty.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
October 1867.

Enclosure 5, in No. 11.

(E.)

Encl. 5, in No. 11. To His Excellency the Honourable Sir *John Henry Thomas Manners Sutton*, Knight, Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of Victoria, &c. &c.

WE, Her most gracious Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Victoria, in Parliament assembled, beg to approach your Excellency with a sincere assurance of our loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty's throne and person.

Referring to your Excellency's message of the 2nd instant, respecting the proposed grant to Lady Darling, we respectfully submit to your Excellency that the custom in compliance with which Her Majesty is advised to recommend to each House, in the first instance, exceptional grants, finds no counterpart in a recommendation to the Legislative Council of an exceptional grant to which that body has already informed your Excellency it entertains grave objections.

We would, however, assure your Excellency that whenever the proposed grant to Lady Darling is brought before this House in such a manner as will not preclude us from giving effect to our opinions upon it, we shall be prepared to give it our earnest and serious consideration.

(signed) *J. F. Palmer*, President.

Enclosure 6, in No. 11.

Encl. 6, in No. 11.

J. H. T. Manners Sutton, Governor.

THE Governor receives with satisfaction the renewed assurance by the Legislative Council of their loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty's throne and person.

With reference to the last paragraph of the address of the Legislative Council, the Governor would observe that the question which is therein brought under his notice is one of Parliamentary discretion; and while it is his earnest desire to contribute, so far as he can properly contribute, to the removal of existing differences between the two Houses, it is clearly undesirable that he should intervene in such a manner as would withdraw these differences from their proper sphere, and so give to them a character which does not naturally belong to them, of a conflict between the majority of one or other of the two Houses and the representative of the Crown.

Government Offices, Melbourne,
16 October 1867.

Enclosure 7, in No. 11.

1. Mr. *Levey*: To move, on going into Committee [of Ways and Means, Encl. 7, in No. 11.] that this House, having agreed to vote the sum of 20,000*l.* to Lady Darling, as compensation for the loss by Sir Charles Darling, on political grounds, of his office as Governor of Victoria, it is expedient that a Bill be now brought in to give effect to such resolution.

Enclosure 8, in No. 11.

MINUTE for His Excellency the Governor.

Encl. 8, in No. 11.

1. The Chief Secretary informs the Governor, with deep regret, that the Appropriation Bill for the year has been a second time rejected by the Legislative Council.

2. The only means by which claims against the State can be met are by Acts of special appropriation, and by process of law.

3. Under these circumstances, his Excellency's advisers would be prepared to allow the law to take its course, casting all the responsibility upon those who have, in their opinion, produced this state of affairs. But they are aware that as yet the opinion of the people as to the course adopted by the Government and the majority of the Legislative Assembly has not been directly obtained, and his Excellency's advisers are anxious that his Excellency should be assured that they do not desire to evade the decision of public opinion, and they are prepared to take the responsibility of advising a dissolution of the Legislative Assembly.

4. It is right, however, that his Excellency should know that the decision of the people at the general election will be regarded by his advisers as final, and that the advice which they may subsequently regard it as their duty to tender to his Excellency, will be founded on that conclusion.

5. The chief Secretary, therefore, begs leave to advise that provision b^e made by a temporary Supply Bill for the current public expenditure, and that Parliament be prorogued with a view to a dissolution.

Chief Secretary's Office,
22 October 1867.

(signed) *James M'ulloch.*

Enclosure 9, in No. 11.

The Governor has received the Chief Secretary's memorandum of this day's late.

He learns from that memorandum that his advisers entertain the opinion that existing differences between the two houses cannot be solved without an appeal to the people. Under these circumstances, therefore, and bearing in mind that the Queen's Government is now incapacitated from performing its functions in a strictly constitutional manner, the Governor accepts the advice now tendered him.

Encl. 9, in No. 11.

23 October 1867.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Enclosure, 10, in No. 11.

5. Dissolution of Assembly.—Mr. Macpherson moved, pursuant to notice, that in the opinion of this House, no Ministry is justified in advising a dissolution of the Assembly, whereby the Executive Government will not be relieved from their existing inability to perform their duties in meeting the requirements of the public service to the Crown and to the people.

Encl. 10, in No. 11.

— No. 12. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Honourable Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

(No. 151.)

Government Office, Melbourne, 27 November 1867.

(Received, 13 January 1868.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward, herein enclosed, a copy of the speech with which, on the 8th instant, I prorogued the Parliament of this Colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 12.

Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
27 Nov. 1867.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Encl. in No. 12.

MR. PRESIDENT and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I regret to learn that the continued differences between the two Houses have deprived the Government of Parliamentary Supplies for services of the year. I am advised that a prolongation of the Session would not lead to a solution of these differences. I therefore, in Her Majesty's name, declare this Parliament to be prorogued to Tuesday, the 26th day of November instant; and it is hereby prorogued accordingly.

Melbourne, 8th November 1867.

— No. 13. —

No. 13.

Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
27 Nov. 1867.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Honourable Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 152.)

Government Offices, Melbourne, 27 November 1867.

(Received, 13 January 1868.)

My Lord Duke,

(Answered, No. 9, 1 February 1868, page 50.)

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace, herein enclosed, an address from the Legislative Council to Her Majesty, and to request that this address may be laid at the foot of the Throne.

Of those paragraphs of the address in which the policy of the proposed grant to Lady Darling is questioned, I think that it is not necessary for me to offer any explanation, or to submit on this occasion respecting them to your Grace the expression of any opinion.

Your Grace, however, will observe that the Legislative Council, before whom the Despatches referred to have been laid by me, entertain doubts as to the correctness of the interpretation given by me to those Despatches; and they are, it would appear, of opinion that I should have regarded those Despatches as precluding me from submitting, on the recommendation of my responsible advisers, to the Legislature the proposed grant to Lady Darling.

But your Grace is already in possession of full information, not only with respect to every step which I have taken in connection with this question, but also of the motives by which I have been guided in taking those steps; and if I should unfortunately have misconstrued the Despatches which I have received from your Grace and your predecessor, or have otherwise committed any error, I shall, I doubt not, have received from your Grace a notification that this is the case before an opportunity can be afforded for transmitting to me any reply to the enclosed address from the Legislative Council.

I have, &c.

(signed) J. H. T. Manners Sutton.

His Grace the
Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Encl. in No. 13.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Victoria, in Parliament assembled, humbly beg to approach your Majesty with expressions of our attachment to your Majesty's throne and person, and of our desire that your Majesty's constitutional authority in this Colony may be upheld.

We beg most humbly to call to your Majesty's recollection that in May 1866 the Legislative Assembly of this Colony presented an address to your Majesty, stating that a grant of 20,000 £. to Lady Darling had been recommended by a Committee of that House, and praying your Majesty to be graciously pleased to sanction it.

By a Despatch of the 8th December 1866, your Majesty's then principal Secretary of State for the Colonies informed the Governor of this Colony that the address had been laid before your Majesty, but that he was unable to advise your Majesty to accede to the request which it conveyed; and also stated that the rule that a Governor should not

receive

receive pecuniary or valuable presents from the inhabitants of the Colony over which he presided, either during the continuance of his office, or on leaving it, was expressly laid down in the Colonial regulations, and for obvious reasons had always been enforced, and that it was, under these circumstances, impossible that your Majesty should be advised to sanction the literal or substantial violation of that rule by any of your Majesty's servants.

By a letter of the 17th April 1867, addressed to your Majesty's present Secretary of State for the Colonies, Sir Charles Darling informed his Grace the Duke of Buckingham that he had finally relinquished the Colonial service.

By a Despatch of the 10th May 1867, his Grace the Duke of Buckingham transmitted to the Governor a copy of Sir Charles Darling's letter, without any comment or observation.

After the receipt of that Despatch, a sum of 20,000*l.* for Lady Darling was included in the usual Appropriation Bill; and we rejected that Bill, not only because we considered that the grant was improperly mixed with the general supplies for the service of the year, but also because we were of opinion that it was unconstitutional for a Colony of the empire to reward an Imperial officer whom your Majesty has seen fit to relieve from the duties of his office; and to do so would have a tendency to produce corrupt practices in every department of the State.

Conscious of the advantage which occurs to your Majesty's Australian Colonies from their connection with the British empire; and believing that a Colonial Legislature has no more right to act in contravention of Imperial regulations than it has power to legislate in opposition to Imperial laws, we are unwilling to concur in any measure which would lead to a "literal or substantial violation by any of your Majesty's servants" of the rule to which we have referred.

We humbly submit for your Majesty's consideration that, although Sir Charles Darling has retired from the Imperial service, the proposed grant to Lady Darling is not a matter of domestic policy with which the Legislature of this Colony should deal, until your Majesty shall have sanctioned such a departure from the Colonial regulations.

We, therefore, humbly pray that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to signify your Royal will and pleasure in the premises.

J. F. Palmer,
President.

— No. 14. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Honourable Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K. C. B., to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

(No. 155.)

Government Offices, Melbourne, 27 November 1867.
(Received, 13 January 1868.)

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 8, 1 February 1868, page 50.)

IN the concluding (23rd and following) paragraphs of my Despatch of the 26th ultimo, No. 148,* I explained the then existing condition of affairs in connection with the point or points in dispute between the two houses; and when that Despatch was written I was under an impression, or at least entertained a hope, that the Supply Bill which the Legislative Assembly had passed would also pass the Legislative Council; and that a Parliamentary, although temporary and incomplete, sanction would be given to the supplies necessary to enable the Government to meet for a time the most pressing demands on the Treasury.

2. And on the 29th ultimo, to which day the Legislative Council had adjourned, before the Supply Bill had been passed by the Legislative Assembly, that Bill was read a first time in the Legislative Council without a division; but on the 5th instant, to which day the second reading of the Bill was postponed, it was rejected, after debate, by a majority of 20 to 8.

3. Your Grace is aware that the Legislative Council had, on a previous occasion, and under circumstances similar (for in both cases the Appropriation Bill had been rejected) although not identically the same, passed a Supply Bill; I am unwilling to undertake the responsibility of endeavouring to explain to your Grace the grounds upon which the Legislative Council pursued on this occasion a different course, for I should probably fail to state satisfactorily, and perhaps render myself liable to the imputation of understating, the arguments adduced by the opponents of a Bill for the introduction of which my sanction had been officially given. On this point I may perhaps be allowed to refer your Grace to the reported speeches of the opponents of the measure. But I may state that on this, as on the previous occasion, no doubt was left with respect to,

No. 14.

Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.
27 Nov. 1867.

* Page 28.

Vide Despatch,
27 Sept., No. 135,
page 24.

Vide Enclosure
marked B, in Des-
patch, No. 148, of
26 October, page
28.

Encl. 1, in No. 14.
Not printed.

nor was any objection, so far as I am aware, taken to the character of the expenditure to meet which the supply proposed in the Bill would have been devoted if the Bill had passed.

4. The rejection of the Supply Bill introduced into the crisis a new and very embarrassing complication, the more embarrassing because the Bill had been submitted with a view to a dissolution, and was intended to provide for the necessary expenditure during the appeal to the constituencies.

5. Now I have not concealed, nor do I now desire to conceal from your Grace, that on each of the two successive occasions on which the Legislative Council rejected the Appropriation Bill, and on this last occasion when the Supply Bill was rejected, the political party, now in opposition, whose opinions are represented by the majority of the Legislative Council, but which has never succeeded in obtaining a majority in the Legislative Assembly have assented directly through their organs, and (if I am not mistaken) indirectly, although with sufficient clearness, in Parliament, that the proper and only remedy for the complications thus produced was to be found in the transfer of power from the existing Administration to their opponents, and that it was the duty of the Governor at once to take this step.

6. And acquiescing generally in the principles (constitutional) from which this conclusion has been deduced, I should, under ordinary circumstances, and if the contest had been simply one between two contending political parties, have been probably prepared to act upon those principles, although I should certainly have regarded myself as entitled, preliminarily, to consider, and to form my own opinion respecting the results to be anticipated from a change of government.

7. But the contest now in progress is not only one between two political parties, it is also a contest between the two Houses, and the question or questions at issue between them include, if they do not resolve themselves into, conflicting claims for authority in financial legislation.

8. Under these circumstances, and bearing specially in mind the character of the questions in dispute between the two Houses, it was, I conceived, doubly incumbent upon me to abstain from any step which might not, as is generally admitted, and would not, in my opinion, have produced harmonious action between the two Houses, but which would have identified, in some degree at least, the representative of the Crown with one of the contending parties, and which therefore it would have been difficult to retrace.

Encl. 2, in No. 14.
Encl. 3, in No. 14.
Encl. 4, in No. 14.

9. On receiving, therefore, from the Chief Secretary the Memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (B.), I arrived, upon full consideration, at the conclusion set forth in my Memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (C.), to which Memorandum I received from my responsible advisers the reply, of which a copy is enclosed, marked (D.).

10. As regards the first part of my Memorandum, marked (C.), the preceding observations render unnecessary any further explanation; but with respect to those paragraphs (of the Memorandum) which refer to the course of action to be pursued by the Government, in the absence of Parliamentary Supplies, I wish to submit some additional remarks.

11. And, firstly, I would state that the scope and legal effect of the "Crown Liabilities Act," as regards the relative positions of the Crown, and of claimants against the Crown, for monies which have not been provided by Parliament, have been tested, and, so far as I can judge, clearly settled by a decision of the Supreme Court of this Colony. I enclose, for your Grace's information, a report (newspaper), marked (E.), of the case to which I refer; and I request your Grace's attention to the fact, that in this case (*Lavender v. The Queen*), the claimant was a civil servant, and that his salary should have been provided for by Parliament, but was not so provided, which fact was alleged on behalf of the Crown, and that the jury gave a verdict for the whole of the salary claimed, and that the presiding judge (the Chief Justice) concurred in this verdict.

12. Your Grace then will observe that with this decision before me (and it has not been reversed or even appealed against); I am bound to regard the two facts, that a contract has been entered into, and that the sum claimed is in accordance

with

Encl. 5, in No. 14.

with the terms of that contract, as constituting a claim under the "Crown Liabilities Act," against which the plea that no provision has been made for the claim by Parliament could not be successfully maintained in a court of law; and, secondly, I am bound to regard the appointment of a civil servant as constituting a contract, according to the provisions of the "Crown Liabilities Act," for the salary attached to his office.

13. In connection with this point I would only add that instructions (of which a copy is enclosed marked F.) have been given by the Attorney General to the Crown Solicitor for the protection of the Crown against claims which may be invalid, either in law or in equity, and for reducing, so far as is consistent with the maintenance of the position of the Government, as the Defendant, the costs, to be paid by the Government, of actions which cannot be defended with a prospect of success.

*Encl. 6, in No. 14
11 Nov. 1867.*

14. The first point discussed in my Memorandum, namely, whether the Government was, under existing circumstances, entitled to incur any new, or to continue, where they had the power to terminate them, accruing liabilities, was, I confess, in my opinion, one of a far more doubtful character than that to which I have just referred.

15. But it must be remembered that the refusal to give a parliamentary sanction to the supplies for the year has not been the result of any objection either to the character or to the extent of the supplies requisite to maintain, on their present footing, the services necessary for the protection of life and property, and to defray the expenditure, the suspension, even temporary, of which would inflict severe and permanent injury on the public at large; and I do not entertain any doubt whatever that Parliament will adopt the liabilities which may be incurred, under the pressure of urgent necessity, by the Government for the prevention of confusion or permanent injury to the public, and by providing the necessary supplies, relieve them from all responsibility.

16. More than a fortnight has elapsed since Parliament was prorogued with a view to a dissolution; but the then impending arrival of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, who was at Adelaide, rendered it inexpedient to dissolve immediately after the prorogation. His Royal Highness has now arrived here, and it has not been considered desirable to disturb, by a dissolution of Parliament, the joyous excitement of the people at large, the unanimity of whose welcome to His Royal Highness, and heartfelt gratification at his visit to this part of Her Majesty's dominions, has not been, and, I can without hesitation assert, will not be disturbed by any differences of political opinions.

17. At the same time I should state that I am fully sensible of the gravity of the objections in a constitutional point of view to any unnecessary delay in dissolving, because that delay, if unnecessary, would imply acquiescence in a condition of affairs which, although not contrary to law, is not in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution or with its letter as it existed before the "Crown Liabilities Statute" had been enacted.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 14.

Not printed.

*Encl. 1, in No. 14.
Not printed.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 14.

(B.)

MINUTE for His Excellency the Governor.

Encl. 2, in No. 14.

THE Chief Secretary informs his Excellency the Governor that the Supply Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly has been rejected by the Legislative Council.

No Parliamentary supplies are, therefore, now at the disposal of the Government, and they are unable to meet the current public expenditure.

This condition of affairs, and the causes which have produced it, have confirmed the opinion of his Excellency's Advisers, that under existing circumstances the differences between the Houses could not be solved by prolonging the Session, and without such a solution Parliamentary supplies are unobtainable.

His Excellency's Advisers do not underrate the gravity of the crisis, or the detriment to the public interest which must necessarily ensue before the decision of the people can be obtained.

But while in the meantime they would not regard it as justifiable to cause unnecessary delay or additional expense by the endeavour to resist just claims which may be legally recoverable, they will feel it to be their duty carefully to abstain from any step which, although it might mitigate inconvenience and pressure for the moment, might tend to substitute in financial affairs executive for parliamentary authority.

The Chief Secretary now advises his Excellency that Parliament be prorogued immediately, with a view to a dissolution.

(signed) *James M' Culloch.*

Enclosure 3, in No. 14.

(C.)

Encl. 3, in No. 14. THE Governor has received the Memorandum of yesterday's date submitted to him by the Chief Secretary, in which he recommends, for the reasons therein stated, an immediate prorogation.

The Governor would remind his Advisers that in his Memorandum of the 29th August he stated to them that if he had been able to arrive at the conclusion, or even to entertain the expectation, that the formation of a new administration would remove or mitigate existing embarrassments, and promote harmonious action between the two deliberative chambers of the Legislature, he would have regarded it as his duty to communicate this opinion to his Advisers, with an announcement of his desire to call others to the Council Board. And the Chief Secretary and his colleagues are, the Governor knows, aware that he retains the opinions expressed in that Memorandum, and that he has always been prepared to act upon them.

But a very anxious and careful consideration of all the materials within the Governor's reach for arriving at a conclusion on this question has led him now, as it led him in August last, to believe that a change of Government would not produce, or even tend to produce, the desired effect. On the contrary, the recorded opinions and proceedings of the two Houses point to a directly opposite conclusion.

It may of course be alleged, and the Governor is aware that it has been contended, that the experiment at least should be made. But the displacement of the ministers, supported continuously by a majority of the lower house, is a step which could not properly be taken by the Governor without a fair prospect at least of that success, by which alone, as is admitted by all constitutional authorities, such an exceptional exercise of the prerogative can alone be justified.

It has been therefore the duty of the Governor throughout the Parliamentary contests which have for some months impeded, and have now stopped financial legislation, to confine his endeavours to restore united action in the Legislature within the limits prescribed by neutrality on the points at issue between the two Houses, and by the constitutional right of an existing Government to the fair support of the Governor, and the failure of these endeavours and the respective positions of the adverse majorities in the two Houses preclude the Governor from questioning the correctness of the opinion entertained and expressed by his Advisers, that under existing circumstances the differences which render Parliamentary supplies unobtainable by the Government could not be solved by prolonging the session.

The next question discussed in the Memorandum of the Chief Secretary is the course of action to be pursued by the Government in the absence, temporary, of Parliamentary supplies. Now, as regards existing claims against the Government, and the position of the claimants on the one hand, and of the Government on the other, in connection with the Crown Remedies Act, the Governor has little, if anything, to add to the opinions expressed in his Memorandum of the 21st August.

In that Memorandum the Governor pointed out that this Act might be rendered available for withdrawing the public funds from the control of Parliament, and placing them at the disposal of the Governor, or, to use the words of his Advisers, for "substituting in financial affairs executive for Parliamentary authority."

The Governor entirely concurs with his Advisers in condemning any such course of action as unconstitutional, and while he agrees with his advisers in the opinion that it would not be proper or consistent with the constitutional relations existing between the Government and the Legislature that the Government should afford to plaintiffs in actions against the Crown facilities for obtaining judgments, and thereby the satisfaction of claims, for which Parliamentary provision has not been made, he no less completely recognizes the fact, that when an action is brought against the Crown the first questions to be considered by the Government are the equity and legality of the claim, and that if these questions should be clearly decided in the affirmative, and if no defence valid in law could be pleaded on the part of the Crown to the action, it would be derogatory to the Crown,

Crown, and unjust to the plaintiff, if the Government could actively resist the claim for the purpose of causing expense or interposing delay, and the Governor is of opinion that in dealing with claims of this character (that is, claims just in themselves and clearly recoverable by process of law), no wiser course could be adopted than that which has been pursued, namely, of allowing judgments to go by default; for by this course no injury is inflicted on a *bonâ fide* creditor of the Crown exercising rights to which the law entitles him, while the Government maintains throughout the proceedings the character and position of a defendant.

The Governor has not, in discussing this question, overlooked the fact that he might refuse to sign a warrant for the amount of a judgment obtained against the Crown under the Crown Remedies Act, and that it is very doubtful whether he could be compelled by process of law to sign it; but such a proceeding on the part of the Governor would not, in his opinion, be a legitimate mode of protecting the constitutional rights of the Legislature; and it would be less legitimate now than at any former time, because the scope and operation of the Crown Remedies Act are, and have been for some time, perfectly well known to the Legislature, and it remains unaltered on the Statute Book; and although the Governor may entertain, personally, grave doubts whether the public benefits derived from that Act are not more than counterbalanced by attendant evils, the proper remedy for those evils, is in his opinion, to be found, not in the refusal of the Governor to bow to the decision of a Court of Law, but in legislation.

On the other hand, it is clearly the duty of a constitutional Government to look to Parliamentary supplies, whether annual or fixed, and to Parliamentary supplies alone, for meeting the liabilities of the Government. And it would be difficult to prove, by abstract reasoning, that the legitimate consequence, in a constitutional point of view, of the refusal of parliamentary supplies, is not the discontinuance of every service to the maintenance of which those supplies would, if available by the Government, have been applied.

Such a conclusion would, under existing circumstances, involve the disbandment of the police, the cessation of discipline and inspection in the prisons and lunatic asylums, the discontinuance of the postal and railway services, and the complete disorganization of every branch of the public service, excepting those for which provision is made by special Appropriation Acts.

But the Governor concurs with his Advisers in the opinion that the fact that parliamentary supplies for the services of the year have been temporarily withheld from the Government does not impose on the Government, as an imperative duty, active and immediate interference to stop those services which are indispensably necessary for the protection of life and property, and the suspension, even temporary, of which would inflict severe and permanent injury on the public at large. And the Governor believes, in common with his advisers, that the Government may, in full reliance that Parliament will approve this course, and provide the necessary funds, incur those liabilities which are indispensably necessary for the protection of life and property, and to prevent confusion.

But he relies on their not incurring any liabilities of a less urgent character.

The Governor, with these remarks, informs the Chief Secretary that he accepts the recommendation of his Advisers, that the Legislature should be immediately prorogued, with a view to a dissolution.

Toorak, 8 November 1867.

(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

Enclosure 4, in No. 14.

(D.)

MINUTE for his Excellency the Governor.

Encl. 4, in No. 14.

MR. McCULLOCH has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's Minute, dated to-day.

The members of the Government concur in the opinion expressed by his Excellency as to the constitutional relations between the Executive Government and the Legislature in financial affairs, and they trust that the result of the general election may render it unnecessary to tender advice which, while it might seem to be inconsistent with a strict observance of that relation, might, in the opinion of his Excellency's Advisers, be, nevertheless, necessary.

Melbourne, 8 November 1867.

(signed) *James McCulloch.*

Enclosure 5, in No. 14.

(E.)

SUPREME COURT, 6th November 1861.

Encl. 5, in No. 14.

LAVENDER v. THE QUEEN.

AN action to recover payment for services rendered by the Plaintiff during one year one month and twenty-four days to the Queen as Clerk of the Bench, Deputy Sheriff, &c. at Kyneton, under an appointment duly made and duly gazetted on 18th November 1859. The real defence seemed to be simply that there were no funds, and that there

were no funds because the Attorney General of the day had omitted to put the claim on the estimates. The evidence was, that Mr. Ireland blamed Mr. Wood, and Mr. Wood blamed Mr. Ireland.

Mr. Mitchie and Mr. Higinbotham for the Plaintiff. Dr. Sewell and Mr. Dawson for the Defendant.

The jury gave a verdict for 403 l. 12 s. 6 d., the whole amount claimed.

His Honour said, in very strong language, that he could scarcely conceive anything more destructive to the credit and efficiency of the public service than that there should exist any necessity for defending such an action.

(Argus, 11th November 1861.)

Enclosure 6, in No. 14:

(F.)

Encl. 6, in No. 14.

MEMORANDUM for the Crown Solicitor.

THE Attorney General requests that the Crown Solicitor will pay special and close attention to the character and circumstances of all suits brought on and after the 8th instant against the Crown under the Act No. 241. The following are the general rules by which the discretion of the law officers will for the present be guided in the conduct of suits against the Crown.

Suits brought by persons employed in the public service to recover salaries or wages due for services rendered will not be defended. But the amount claimed in each case must be carefully examined by the returns to be obtained by the Crown Solicitor from the department in which the Petitioner is employed; and if anything by way of interest, or otherwise, beyond the amount returned by the department, be claimed by the Petitioner, the Crown Solicitor will immediately report the case, and take instructions for defending the suit. The Crown Solicitor will also report every case in which a public servant sues the Crown by attorney and not in person.

If any suit be brought before the next meeting of Parliament, which is founded only upon a grant of the Legislative Assembly, and not upon a contract entered into between the Government and the Petitioner, it will be defended.

It is the intention of the Government, under existing circumstances, not to enter into any fresh contracts except for services which are indispensably necessary for the protection of life and property, and to prevent confusion. All suits which may be brought upon contracts entered into on or before the 8th instant will therefore be specially reported upon by the Crown solicitor, in order that the law officers may determine in each case whether a defence shall be pleaded or not.

The Attorney General requests the Crown solicitor to bring immediately under his attention every case which presents any singular or doubtful features.

11 November 1867.

(signed) *Geo. Higinbotham.*

— No. 15. —

No. 15.

Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B., to
the Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

(No. 161.)

Government Offices, Melbourne, 27 December 1867.

(Received, 12 February 1868.)

(Answered, No. 15, 26 February 1868, page 51.)

My Lord Duke,

27 Dec. 1867.

* Page 35.

YOUR Grace is aware that, under the circumstances detailed in my Despatch of the 27th November, No. 155,* I assented to the recommendation of my Responsible Advisers, that Parliament should be dissolved; and you are also cognisant of the reasons why the dissolution did not immediately follow my acceptance of this advice.

2. I have now the honour to state that in addition to, and independently of, the visit to this Colony of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, which will not terminate until the 4th proximo, circumstances have occurred, since the Despatch above referred to was written, which as it appeared to me were worthy of consideration in determining the time of the dissolution, if not in connection with the decision to dissolve.

3. For on the 3rd December (a few days only after the departure of the last mail) a case was argued before the judges, sitting in Banco, of the Supreme Court,

Court, which case, although the Crown was not a party to the suit, or directly connected with it, raised not only the question of the validity of judgments obtained by default, under the Crown Remedies Act, but other questions also of even greater importance respecting the scope and operation of that Act, and bearing more or less directly on the constitutional functions of the Government and the Legislature in matters of finance.

Vide Encl. marked (C.) in Despatch, 27 Nov., No. 155.

4. I enclose, for the information of your Grace, a report, marked (A.), of the arguments of counsel on both sides in this case. The Court deferred judgment, which was, however, delivered on the 24th, and I enclose a Report, marked (B.), of that judgment.

Encl. (A.), in No. 15. [Not printed.]

5. I have not as yet had an opportunity of learning fully the views of my advisers respecting this judgment, which was as regards some points unexpected by them, and by the Audit Commissioners as well as by myself. I refer especially to the decision, authoritative, that a judgment of the Supreme Court under the Crown Remedies Act, does not in itself render monies in the Treasury legally available for the satisfaction of that judgment. The opposite view has been hitherto accepted and acted upon by the Audit Commissioners and by successive Governors, including Sir Henry Barkly, Sir Charles Darling, and myself, without interruption, and your Grace will observe that the correctness in law of this practice was not questioned by the counsel in the case recently decided. But the decision of the Court against it is clear and authoritative, and this decision will of course guide the proceedings of the Audit Commissioners, as well as of the Governor, for the future.

Encl. (B.), in No. 15.

6. It is perhaps right that I should state, that although the process of paying money out of the Treasury is commenced by the requisition of a minister (the Treasurer), the Governor's warrant, without which no money can be issued from the Treasury, is not signed until the Commissioners of Audit have certified, in accordance with the provisions of the Audit Act, that the sum or sums of money for which the warrant has been prepared are legally available for the purposes specified in it. And I have never signed, or been invited to sign, a warrant for which this certificate, signed by two Commissioners of Audit, has not been preliminarily attached.

7. A reference to the opinions expressed by me in former Despatches, and their enclosures, of the effect, in a constitutional point of view, of the Crown Remedies Act, as its scope and operation were then understood, will convince your Grace that the interpretation given to that Act by the Supreme Court, although unexpected, is not regretted by me. On the contrary, this interpretation reconciles, as it appears to me, the letter of the law with the spirit of the constitution.

8. I cannot hope to be able to report to your Grace by this mail, which closes to-morrow morning, the result of the deliberations of my advisers, and my decision as regards the question of dissolution. But I am disposed to believe that the consideration of the difficulties and very grave inconveniences attaching to either of the two causes, viz., the re-assembling of the existing Parliament or a dissolution, open to me, will lead to an adherence to the determination to dissolve, as being the lesser evil; and if so, the dissolution will be immediate.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. T. Manners Sutton.*

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 15.

(A.)
Not printed.

*Encl. 1, in No. 15.
[Not printed.]*

Enclosure 2, in No. 15.

(B.)

ALCOCK *v.* FERGIE.

Encl. 2, in No. 15.

The Chief Justice read the following judgment of the Court, reserved, after argument *in banco* in Hilary Term, on the 3rd and 5th of December:—

Declaration for breach of an agreement to forbear and give time to the plaintiff for payment of a debt of 120 *l.*, in consideration of an assignment made by him to the defendant of a valuable security, namely, a judgment recovered against the Crown for the sum of 157 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.*

Plea that the plaintiff filed his petition against the Crown for 157 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.* for goods sold and delivered; that neither the Attorney nor Solicitor General did, nor did either of them, plead or demur thereto, or say anything in bar or preclusion of the petition whereby the plaintiff recovered the said sum of 157 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.*; and that the contract out of which the claim or demand arose was entered into without the authority of Her Majesty or of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, or of this colony; nor has any money been legally available for or applicable to the payment of the alleged claim or demand; nor was any money appropriated by Parliament for the purpose. The plea concluded with an averment of the identity of the judgment in the plea with that in the declaration.

Replications.—Firstly, that before the contract was entered into the plaintiff tendered to supply the goods mentioned, and the Board of Land and Works accepted the tender; and that the contract was entered into with the authority of the Governor and Executive Council, and was duly performed before the filing of the petition. And lastly, that before the passing of the Act No. 322, a large sum (of which the said sum of 157 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.* was part) was voted by the Legislative Assembly in the Session mentioned in that Act, for the services set forth in the petition, and that the contract out of which the claim arose was made after the end of the said Session.

The defendant demurred to both replications, and the plaintiff gave notice of objections to the plea; but the validity of the judgment formed the principal subject of discussion during the argument, and is now the material question for our consideration.

The judgment was impugned on three distinct grounds:—That the Government had no power to make the contract alleged in the petition. That the Act known as the “Crown Remedies Act,” 28 Vict., No. 241, precludes by its terms a petitioner obtaining judgment by default. And that, if such a judgment might be signed, the Crown Remedies Act, 28 Vict. No. 241, would repeal by implication the Constitution Statute as well as the Audit Act, 22 Vict., No. 86, and would dispense with all control by Parliament over the consolidated revenues of the country.

As regards the first ground, Parliament may, by legislative enactment, either in express terms or by necessary implication, authorise the Government to enter into contracts. Statutes directing the execution of certain works, and appointing a certain department or person to carry them out, afford instances of the former. Statutes appropriating part of the consolidated revenue for certain services, and thus impliedly empowering contracts to be made for the performance of those services, afford instances of the latter kind. But no authority was cited to show, and we are not aware of any decision in courts of law which determines that in the absence of such enabling power, the Government can enter into contracts to bind the state. Cases of unforeseen exigencies may not unfrequently be met by Government acting on the faith of Parliament confirming their acts, but until this confirmation has been given, although it may scarcely ever be withheld, the act done by the Government is not at law obligatory on the State; and it is clear that the adoption of legal proceedings merely to recover a debt will neither confer a power nor render valid an act; the power must have previously existed, or the act must have been otherwise authorized. Observations of the Lord Chief Justice in the case of *Churchward v. The Queen* 1 Law Rep. 200, were much relied on by the plaintiff, in support of the proposition that a binding contract on which a Petition of Right would lie, might be made by the Admiralty, or head of a department, agreeing in express words to employ any particular person, whether Parliament found the funds or not. These observations were not necessary to sustain the judgment, and are admittedly extra-judicial. They conclude with an express remark, that the Court was not called on to decide that proposition on the case then before them, and that he, the Lord Chief Justice individually, should be sorry to think that the Court should be driven to come to an opposite conclusion, obviously implying that did such a case arise he might be so driven. These remarks received no response from the other members of the Bench, and the observations, as well as the judgment itself, appear to us to have been somewhat misapprehended. The Court decided in that case that there was no express covenant on the part of the respondent, as alleged in the petition, and they declined to infer any other covenant on the part of the Admiralty binding on the Crown, except a covenant to employ if Parliament provided the funds. In giving judgment on the third plea, that no monies were ever provided by Parliament for the payment to the suppliant for the performance of the contract, or for the payment to him of any damages sustained by him by reason of any of the breaches of the contract, and also referring to the covenant by the Admiralty to pay the suppliant a certain sum, if it should be provided by Parliament, Mr. Justice Shee is thus reported:—“In the case of a contract with
) “Commissioners on behalf of the Crown to make large payments of monies during a series
 “of years, I should have thought that the condition which clogs this covenant, though
 “not

"not expressed, must, on account of the notorious inability of the Crown to contract unconditionally for such money payments in consideration of such services, have been implied in favour of the Crown." And again: "It was beyond the power of the Commissioners, as the suppliant must have known, to contract on behalf of the Crown, on any terms but those by which the Government is restricted and fenced. I am of opinion that the providing funds by Parliament is a condition precedent to it attaching. The most important department of the public service, however negligently or inefficiently conducted, would be above control of Parliament were it otherwise." In the face of the admissions on the record, we see no reason for assuming in the present case the existence of things essential to empower either the Government or the Board of Land and Works to make a valid contract; but as no defence has been made to the petition we cannot now hold the judgment invalid on grounds which might have been brought before the Court by plea, as in Churchward's case, that Parliament had not provided funds to pay for the goods supplied. We have gone thus fully into the subject of the authority to contract, as it formed no small portion of the argument on both sides.

We now proceed to the second ground on which the defendant contended this judgment was invalid, and although the provisions of the Imperial statute are different in some respects from those of the act of this country, we cannot arrive at the conclusion that the latter by its terms prevents the signing a judgment by default. The clause of sect. 21 running thus:—"A law officer shall, for and on behalf of Her Majesty, answer, plead, or demur, &c.," assumed to be imperative, and compelling the law officer to plead whether there be a defence or not, should be regarded, in our opinion, as a *designatio personæ*, who is to plead or demur, and also as fixing the time within which the pleadings are to be delivered, leaving to the law officer to exercise the right, which he unquestionably possesses at common law, of confessing matters of fact so as to bind the Crown; *Rex v. Bamfield*, Bunbury, 102; *Wall v. Pennington*, Hardress, 170 and 129. Nor do the words "hear and determine," in our opinion, necessarily exclude a judgment by default. The matters of fact being confessed, the Court, on being informed thereof, hears the subject of the petition as much in effect as if it was proved by evidence, and determines thereon. The expressions "assessed" and "awarded," too, are applicable to inquiries or assessments of damages in undefended actions, and compensation in suits taken *pro confesso*, as much as if the action was defended, and the suit contested. The clause in the Imperial statute (23 and 24 Vict. cap. 34, passed 1863), which requires that a judge's order should be obtained in England before judgment by default can be signed, admits there may be a failure to plead, answer, or demur on the part of the respondent; and the clause itself was, in our opinion, inserted not to authorize the suppliant to sign judgment as a punishment consequent on that failure, but as a protection to the Crown, so that no judgment by default shall be signed until default has been actually committed. It is a protecting not an enabling clause. In Victoria the proceedings are conducted as between subject and subject; in England the protection of a judge's intervention is in cases of judgment by default afforded to the Crown. The absence of any similar clause from the Colonial Act does not therefore allow of an inference unfavourable to a judgment by default being legitimately drawn. We think such judgment may be signed consistently with the terms of the Crown Remedies Act.

And this leads us to dispose of the third ground on which the judgment was impugned. The defendant contends that the Crown Remedies Act must be so construed as to prohibit judgment by default, in order to prevent that Act being a repeal of the Constitution Statute and Audit Act. Conceding for the moment that the defendant is correct in this view, he must also contend that judgment after plea, unless the proper plea were pleaded, is also admissible, for the argument assumes that if judgment by default were excluded, the Crown Remedies Act would not be a repeal of the other Acts. If, irrespective of whether the judgment were by default or after plea pleaded, the one Act would still be a repeal of the other two, all force of the argument is removed. Thus, taking for illustration the cases of two petitions on contracts for work, in neither of which was any money voted by Parliament,—judgment signed by default in the one, and in the other two *bonâ fide* grounds of defence—one that the work was not properly done, and the other that Parliament had not voted the necessary supplies. If in this latter case, the first defence only, non-performance, was pleaded, and that defence not being sustained by sufficient evidence at the trial, a verdict was returned for the suppliant and judgment signed thereon, that judgment, if the present defendants' contention were carried out, would be invalid. All the objectionable results would follow as fully from the proper defence in the one case not having been pleaded, as from no defence whatever having been made in the other. We have put the case of *bonâ fide* defences. It is needless to suggest any special motive or object either for not pleading the precise plea required, or for not pleading at all. We assume the same reasons exist for pursuing the one course as the other. It could not, we think, be held that after trial and verdict the successful litigant might be thus deprived of his judgment obtained in the manner we have suggested, yet to this conclusion the views of the defendant, as we understand them, would necessarily lead.

But though we are unable to hold the present judgment invalid on this ground, we cannot therefore regard the last argument of the defendant as fully answered, for no construction of an Act of Parliament can be sound which would allow that Act so to operate as to produce the effect suggested by the defendant. We have dealt with one part only of the defendant's position, the remainder is as yet untouched. Moreover, we

have to determine, not merely on validity of the judgment, but also whether it constitutes a valuable security, as alleged in the declaration. In the absence of express legislation on the subject, it does not follow that a judgment against the Crown, which is to be satisfied solely out of funds under the control of Parliament, will, although valid, be paid as of course. We must, therefore, consider the effect of all enactments relating to the satisfying these judgments.

It seems to have passed without contradiction at the bar, that so soon as judgment has been signed, and a certificate thereof obtained, a warrant may at once issue, and the judgment be satisfied, without any intermediate steps being taken; but we cannot hastily arrive at a conclusion on this point. It may be convenient to refer to the provisions of the several Acts bearing on the matter.

The 25th section of the Crown Remedies Act provides, that "on receipt of such certificate, it shall be lawful for the Governor to cause to be paid out of the consolidated revenue such damages as may, under the authority of this part of this Act, be assessed to," &c., that is, cause to be paid out of the consolidated revenue legally available for and applicable to that particular service or purpose. This clause directs that the head of the Government, discharging here administrative functions only, shall not do an act, but cause it to be done; and it must of course be done through the medium of those persons by whose concurrent and successive operations the act required may be completed. How these details are to be carried out, the enactment does not provide; it would have been superfluous to have done so, for all necessary directions have been minutely and carefully given by the Audit Act, which became law several years previously. By that enactment the mode is prescribed in which monies are to be issued from the Treasury; it shall be in the following manner only (22 Vict. No. 86, s. 24): "The Treasurer shall, as often as occasion may require, calculate the amount of monies likely to become due and payable," &c.; "and shall thereupon prepare an instrument in the form," &c.; "and after having signed such instrument, shall transmit the same to the Commissioners of Audit, and such instrument, when countersigned by them, or any two of them, in the form contained in the same schedule, and approved by the Governor as hereafter directed, but not otherwise, shall be the warrant for the making the order." Nothing can be more explicit than these instructions; thus only can money be drawn from the Treasury. For this process the Crown Remedies Act substitutes no other. It cannot, in our opinion, be successfully maintained that the words, "the Governor shall cause to be paid," repeal the elaborate system of safeguards to the revenue thus created.

It is only necessary to go a step further and examine the certificate which the Commissioners are bound to give, and without which the warrant to the Treasurer cannot be lawfully signed. It runs thus (Schedule 7): "We certify that the sums above-mentioned are now legally available for and applicable to the services and purposes respectively above set forth." But to render any part of the consolidated revenue legally available for and applicable to the payment of the amount of this judgment, Parliament must have voted and actually appropriated the money for the purpose; and this must have been effected either by a general or a special Appropriation Act, or the monies comprised in what is known as a Supply Bill must have been applied to the particular purpose during the operation of that measure. It is admitted that no general Appropriation Act has passed, and that the Session terminated before the contract was made. The operation of the Supply Bill therefore lapsed.

But though it has not been suggested that a special Appropriation Act has, in express terms, been passed, yet it was alleged, and not controverted rather than directly admitted, that the Crown Remedies Act was in effect an Appropriation Act, and that there was, in fact, a special appropriation of the revenue for the satisfaction of all judgments against the Crown as they may be recovered.

This allegation has not been combated. The defendant, even conceding that the Act amounted to a special appropriation, contended that this afforded an additional reason why the proceedings under that Act should be contentious throughout. The plaintiff urged, that if the Act was a special appropriation, it was immaterial, comparatively, whether the judgment was by default or on verdict after plea pleaded. Thus, during the able arguments addressed to us on both sides, it did not subserve the purpose of either, according to the mode deemed advisable of presenting their respective cases to the Court, that the point should be discussed, but it is incumbent on us, nevertheless, to express our decided opinion upon it, otherwise the actual value of the judgment would not be shown. And now, after full consideration, we do not hesitate to say that, in our opinion, it is the gist of the whole case. The satisfaction of, not the signing of the judgment, is the important matter. It is comparatively immaterial what particular mode of procedure should be adopted if a certain supervision is to be exercised over the signing of judgments, however recovered, before they are satisfied. On what grounds is the money to be issued out of the Treasury? is the question. The plaintiff contends that Parliament has, in all these cases, past, present, and future, abandoned all control. We cannot but think this position is difficult to be maintained. The Act itself is a mere Procedure Act; it provides for the payment of costs in the course of those proceedings, but nothing more. After full argument, and reference to the decisions on the Imperial statute, this Court so determined in the case of *The Corporation of Melbourne v. the Queen*; and the decisions on which that determination was based are strictly applicable to the Act of this country, for, as we shall presently show, there is no substantial distinction as regards the matter under consideration between the two measures, that in force in Great Britain, and that passed in this country.

country. The latter enactment does not in our opinion deal with revenue or expenditure. Moreover, appropriation ought to be of a sum certain, for some definite specific object, the value of which Parliament can estimate, and in consideration of which it is prepared to forego its privilege of an annual vote and appropriation after full discussion. The specific object in view in framing the Crown Remedies Act was not the gaining a certain public benefit in consideration of an equivalent in money, but the simplification of the mode of suing the Crown, and that only. The civil list, endowments of public institutions, the construction of great public works, and the providing permanently for or rewarding some particular public service, afford familiar instances of special appropriations; but in the present case the amounts said to be appropriated were not, nor could they be, ascertained; and even conceding that "actions against the Crown" amount to a sufficient definition or description, by reference to class, of the object to be gained, we cannot discover any special benefit received, or to be received, by Parliament, for giving up during all time to come the power of supervising the merits of judgments. Errors may arise, miscarriages may take place, for which the strict rules of law provide no adequate remedy. We are not to suppose any hardship can be produced from this supervision. An adverse vote in Parliament in any one year will not necessarily determine the matter. Judgments once signed may, without further legal proceedings, be satisfied at a subsequent period. When a sum certain is directed by a statute to be paid annually during a series of years, there, by necessary intendment, the direction amounts to a special appropriation, for that direction could not be carried out without assuming that Parliament had abandoned its right of giving an annual vote for the object; but the clause in question contains no such words, and we are, therefore, obliged to consider all the arguments of inconvenience and probability. Each special appropriation is a voluntary surrender by Parliament of what is supposed to be its most important power, and where that surrender is dependent solely on inference or intendment for its existence, we must be well assured of the intention of the Legislature before we presume that the general revenue of the country has been withdrawn from all direct control by a measure which, so far as express terms are concerned, is silent on the subject. To hold that the act of a suitor who obtains a certificate from the officer of the Court that he has signed a judgment (which may have passed by default or been obtained through omission or mistake), is to operate as a special appropriation of the revenue sufficient to satisfy that judgment, would be, in our opinion, not merely to disregard the true principles of constitutional law, but to exalt those who use the Court above the Legislature. Whatever may be the validity of the judgment, it cannot be legally satisfied until the will of Parliament on the question has been expressed, and no expression of that will has, in our opinion, been conveyed by the Crown Remedies Act.

It has not escaped our attention that an objection may be urged that this making the satisfaction of each judgment dependent on the decision of Parliament is virtually weakening the operation of the enactment. The proper answer to that is, Parliament must express its will on the subject at first or at last, and if not done by the Crown Remedies Act, it must be done in some other way. The objection, therefore, assumes that that measure amounts to a special appropriation, a position we have already stated is not tenable. But apart from this answer the objection may with equal force be applied to the Imperial statute, admittedly a most carefully prepared enactment. That statute permits the satisfaction of a judgment relating to any public matter out of any monies then in the hands of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury legally applicable thereto, or which may be thereafter voted by Parliament for that purpose, that is, out of any monies voted for the service or undertaking respecting which the petition was brought, and then in the Treasury, or out of moneys to be voted. In Churchward's case, already referred to, the counsel for the suppliant, Sir Hugh, now Lord Cairns, admitted that a vote from Parliament was required, and this admission was apparently against his client's interest. He is thus reported:—"No doubt the 23 & 24 Vict. c. 34" (the Imperial statute passed in 1863) "gives no new right, but it is a fallacy to say that, by suing for damages the petitioner is endeavouring to escape from the control of Parliament. Upon the question of voting the damages recovered, Parliament will regain its jurisdiction (if it is desirable it should regain it), but possibly the Act being an Act of 1860, has no operation on this contract." The Act so referred to does not affect the present question. Thus, as we have already said, the two measures are in this point, if our constructions be correct, substantially the same. According to both, no judgment is to be satisfied except out of monies legally applicable thereto; and to render monies legally applicable, Parliament must have expressed its will on the subject. This is the broad principle which both Acts recognize. It is the sure and ready test as to whether monies are applicable or not.

It must not be supposed from these observations that the Crown Remedies Act is without value. In many instances money has been so appropriated as to be applicable to the satisfaction of judgments against the Crown. In all cases the Act presents a simple and comparatively economical machinery for obtaining the decision of the supreme court of the country (which decision may be reviewed by the highest court of appeal) on the questions whether a valid contract has been made between the suppliant and the Crown, and what damages should be awarded for the breach of such a contract. It is left to Parliament, if no money is applicable to the liquidation of those damages, to determine whether the judgment obtained on that decision should be satisfied or not.

It is possible, we do not say probable, that this judgment may never be satisfied; but it is in our opinion regular, and we deem it a valuable security. To put the matter in

the most unfavourable view for the plaintiff, the judgments being satisfied depends on an uncertain event; and as that probability of obtaining satisfaction was given up by the plaintiff, and assigned by him to the defendant, we consider it sufficient to sustain the promise laid in the declaration.

We have not referred to the Common Law Procedure Amendment Act, 29 Vict. No. 290. The argument founded on that measure by the defendant has not, in our opinion, been answered, but that argument partakes somewhat of a technical character, and we prefer to rest our decision on the broad grounds that the Legislature, when they passed the Crown Remedies Act, are supposed to have had the provisions of the Audit Act in their recollection; that they have not, either expressly or impliedly, repealed the latter Act; and that as they have not made the former a special appropriation of monies for the satisfaction of judgments against the Crown, we will not construe it as if they had.

As the judgment is in our opinion valid, and a valuable security, though it cannot yet be satisfied, we decide for the plaintiff.

Judgment for the plaintiff.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 24.)

No. 1.

Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.

1 May, 1867.

* Page 1.

† *Vide* H. C., 310 of 1867, page 37.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 May 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 22nd February, (No. 32*) with a copy of your Address to the Legislative Assembly, laying before them a copy of my predecessor's Despatch of the 8th December last, (No. 47†) respecting the proposed grant by that body of 20,000 *l.* to Lady Darling.

I quite approve of the course which you have adopted.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 2. —

(No. 25.)

No. 2.

Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.

10 May, 1867.

17 April, 1867,
page 53.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 10 May 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you for your information the accompanying copy of a letter from Sir C. Darling, from which you will perceive that he has elected finally to relinquish the Colonial Service.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 3. —

(No. 75.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

No. 3.
Duke of Bucking-
ham and Chandos
to Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B.
30 Oct., 1867.
* Page 2.

Sir,

Downing-street, 30 October 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch (No. 102*) of the 27th of July, reporting the course adopted by your Government with regard to the proposed grant to Lady Darling of the sum of 20,000 *l.*, and enclosing copy of a Minute submitted to you on the subject by the Chief Secretary, together with your reply.

I have to convey to you my approval of the line of conduct which you have adopted in this matter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c

— No. 4. —

(No. 76.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

No. 4.
Duke of Bucking-
ham and Chandos
to Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B.
31 Oct. 1867.

Sir,

Downing-street, 31 October 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 27th August.†

By my Despatch of the 30th October ‡ I conveyed to you my approval of the line of conduct which you had adopted with reference to the proposed grant to Lady Darling of the sum of 20,000 *l.*

I have now to convey to you my approval of the subsequent steps which you have taken in the difficult position in which, to my great regret, I now learn that you have been placed.

Without referring in detail to the different phases of the case, it appears to me generally that you exercised a sound discretion in abstaining from the expression of any opinion on the circumstances which have led to the present critical conjuncture of affairs.

As Sir Charles Darling is no longer in the service of the Crown, I consider that it would not be right either for me as Secretary of State, or for you as Governor, to express any opinion as to the proposed grant to Lady Darling, or the proceedings of your Legislature with reference to that grant.

I shall anxiously await further reports from you, but in the meantime I can only impress upon you the necessity of persevering in the course of entire neutrality which you have hitherto observed in this matter. It is my earnest desire that you should avoid even the appearance of taking part with one side or the other in a controversy which must be locally decided. It is for the Colonial Legislature to discover by common consent some mode by which the present state of things can be put an end to, a state of things which, if not speedily terminated, must I fear result in discredit to the Colony and injury to the public interest.

I should still earnestly hope that the public inconvenience occasioned by the rejection of the Appropriation Bill may be averted by a conference between the two Houses, and by mutual concession.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

† Page 4.
‡ Page 4.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.

(No. 84.)

Duke of Buckingham and Chandos
to Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B.
22 Nov., 1867.
* Page 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*
to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 22 November 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, (No. 132*)
of the 27th September, transmitting a copy of the speech with which you
opened the fourth Session of the fifth Parliament of Victoria.

I have also received your Despatches, Nos. 133 and 134†, of the same date,
enclosing copies of the addresses from the Legislative Assembly and Legislative
Council respectively, in answer to your speech, with copies of your replies to
the addresses.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

†Pages 22, 23.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.

(No. 86.)

Duke of Buckingham and Chandos
to Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B.
22 Nov., 1867.
† Page 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*
to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 22 November 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 131,†
of the 27th September, transmitting a copy of the speech which you addressed
to both Houses of the Legislature of Victoria on the prorogation of the local
Parliament on the 10th of that month.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 7. —

No. 7.

(No. 90.)

Duke of Buckingham and Chandos
to Governor Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B.
26 Nov., 1867.
§ Pages 13, 14, 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*
to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 26 November 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches,§ Nos. 129, 130, and
135 of 27th September, on the subject of the state of affairs in Victoria,
arising out of the proposed grant to Lady Darling.

I am glad to learn from the last of these Despatches that there is, in your
opinion, a growing desire on the part of the two Houses of the Legislature
to reconcile their differences in a manner consistent with the dignity of both
Houses; and I share in the hope you express, that the mutual endeavours of the
contending parties to attain that object will be successful.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 8. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

(No. 1.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 January 1868.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 148,* of the 26th of October, in continuation of those noted in the margin, as relate to the conflict which has arisen between the two branches of the Legislature of Victoria, respecting the proposed grant of 20,000 £. to Lady Darling.

I see no reason to disapprove the course of conduct which you have thought it necessary to adopt under the very embarrassing circumstances in which you found yourself placed.

It is impossible not to regret that the Legislative Assembly should have thought it advisable to include in the Appropriation Bill a grant exceptional in its character and notoriously obnoxious to a large portion of the Upper House, instead of sending up that grant in a form in which it might have received a full and deliberate discussion. I cannot be surprised that the Council, representing, as it does, so large an amount of the property and intelligence of the Colony, should have viewed this mode of proceeding as an attempt to coerce them into sanctioning, without due deliberation, a grant of which they questioned the propriety.

If, however, I am right in inferring from your Despatches that a majority of the Legislative Council are prepared to accede to that grant, if properly brought before them, I think it equally unfortunate that the Council did not avail themselves of the opportunity which you appear to have afforded them of conceding that point with the least possible prejudice to their constitutional authority in matters of legislation.

If, as you lead me to anticipate, the opinion of the constituencies shall be distinctly pronounced in favour of the vote to Lady Darling, I entertain the hope that the Council will have accepted that decision as a sufficient reason for acquiescing, not only in the vote itself, but in the mode in which it shall have been brought before them, and thus terminating a contest so dangerous, and so increasingly dangerous, to the existing constitution of Victoria. But if this unhappily should not be the case, it is the opinion of Her Majesty's Government that the Queen's representative ought not to be made the instrument of enabling one branch of the Legislature to coerce the other, and, therefore, that you ought not again to recommend the vote to the acceptance of the Legislature under the 57th Article of the Constitution Act, except on a clear understanding that it will be brought before the Legislative Council in a manner which will enable them to exercise their discretion respecting it, without the necessity of throwing the Colony into confusion. If I refrain from giving you a positive instruction to this effect, it is only because I am unwilling to bind you irrevocably to a specific course of conduct under circumstances which may have materially changed before this Despatch reaches you. In conclusion, I beg you to believe that I am fully sensible of the great difficulties under which you have to conduct the administration of the Colony, and I entirely rely upon your using every effort to give effect to the instructions which I have communicated to you on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 8.

Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.
1 Jan. 1868.

* Page 28.
No. 130 of
27 Sept. page 14.
No. 135 of
27 Sept. page 24

— No. 9. —

No. 9.
The Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos to Gover-
nor the Hon. Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B.

1 Feb. 1868.

* Page 35.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*
to Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.

(No. 8.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 February 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 155,* of 27th November, reporting the rejection by the Legislative Council of the Supply Bill which had been passed by the Legislative Assembly, and forwarding copies of the correspondence which took place on the occasion between yourself and your responsible advisers.

I feel bound to say that, as at present advised, I regret the refusal of the Council to pass the Bill.

With regard to the proceedings taken under the Crown Remedies Act to enforce payment of claims against the Crown out of monies which have not been appropriated by Parliament to that purpose, it will, of course, be your duty to obey any requirement of the law, and to confine your action within the limits allowed by the law. But in cases in which the law invests you with the power of preventing the issue of public funds by refusing your warrant, or of preventing the conclusion of any contract for the satisfaction of which no money has been provided by Parliament, Her Majesty's Government are unable to relieve you from the responsibility of deciding for yourself, according to the circumstances, whether you would be warranted in using that power in order to prevent an issue of public funds which may appear to you unconstitutional.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 10. —

No. 10.
The Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos to Gover-
nor the Hon. Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B.

1 Feb. 1868.

† Page 34.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*
to Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.

(No. 9.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 1 February 1868.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 152,† of the 27th November, enclosing an address to Her Majesty from the Legislative Council of Victoria, in which they express the opinion that a proposed grant of 20,000 *l.* to Lady Darling is a departure from the Colonial regulations, which the Legislature of the Colony should not sanction until it should have been sanctioned by Her Majesty.

I fully appreciate the feeling which has dictated this address, and I do not doubt that the regulation ought to be upheld in its full meaning, and that its breach will inevitably bear evil fruit, both to the Colonial service and to the Colonies themselves.

In the present case, after full consideration of my predecessor's Despatch of the 8th December 1866,‡ of the terms of the Colonial regulations and of the relation which Sir Charles Darling now occupies towards Her Majesty's Government, I have arrived at the opinion that the proposed grant, whatever opinion may be formed of its policy or propriety, is not so clear and unmistakeable a violation of the existing rule as to call for the extreme measure of forbidding the Governor to be party, under the advice of his responsible Ministers, to those formal acts which are necessary to bring the grant under the consideration of the local Parliament.

Her Majesty's Government deeply regret the conflict which has arisen between the two Houses of Parliament, a conflict which might, perhaps, have been avoided, if the vote, instead of being included in the Appropriation Bill, had

been

† *Vide H. of C. Paper, No. 310 of 1867, p. 37.*

been submitted as a separate measure to the Legislative Council and Assembly. But, be this as it may, the grant appears to have been approved by a large majority of the House of Assembly, and must be presumed to have been similarly acceptable to a large majority of the inhabitants of Victoria. If their recent election shall have shown that this presumption is well founded, it is for the Legislative Council to decide, after full consideration, whether, in a case where it is possible to contend that no formal breach of regulation has occurred, it is desirable that the Council should continue to oppose itself to the ascertained wishes of the community.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 11. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos* to Governor the Hon. Sir *J. H. T. Manners Sutton*, K.C.B.

(No. 15.)

Sir,

Downing Street, 26 February 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 161,* of 27th December, enclosing a printed copy of the judgment of the Supreme Court in the case of *Alcock v. Fergie*, in which the scope and operation of the Crown Remedies Act is explained and defined. You observe that the decision thus authoritatively pronounced is directly opposed to the view hitherto accepted and acted upon by the Audit Commissioners and by successive Governors, and that it will, of course, guide the proceedings of the Commissioners as well as of the Governor for the future.

I entirely approve the intention which you express, to be guided by the decision of the Court in all your proceedings regarding the issue of public money.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Buckingham and Chandos.*

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 11.
The Duke of
Buckingham and
Chandos to Gover-
nor the Hon. Sir
J. H. T. Manners
Sutton, K.C.B.
26 Feb. 1868.
* Page 40.

Correspondence between the Colonial Office and Sir Charles Darling.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.

Sir C. Darling,
K.C.B., to the Duke
of Buckingham
and Chandos.

3 April 1867.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Charles Darling*, K.C.B., to His Grace the
Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

Cheltenham, 7 Lansdown-place,
3 April 1867.

My Lord Duke,

* *Vide* H. of C.
Paper, No. 310 of
1867, p. 92.

WITH reference to a letter which I had the honour to address to the Earl of Carnarvon upon the 4th of November last,* I beg leave to transmit herewith two documents, one being a copy of a petition of appeal to the Queen in Council, on the part of the Attorney General of Victoria, in the matter of certain customs duties alleged to have been illegally levied in that Colony in the year 1865; and the other, a printed report of the proceedings in the Privy Council upon the hearing of that petition.†

It was upon these documents that I founded the observations relative to the effect of the decision of the Lords Justices in the case, which the letter referred to contains; and I am most anxious that they should be regarded as accompanying and forming a part of that letter, and that they may be included accordingly in the papers recently moved for in the House of Commons by the Earl of Bective, and granted by Her Majesty's Government "respecting and arising from the non-enactment of the Appropriation Act in Victoria, 1865."

I have respectfully to express my hope that your Grace will be pleased to give the necessary authority for that purpose.

His Grace
The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling*.

— No. 2. —

No. 2.

Right Hon. C. B.
Adderley, M.P., to
Sir C. Darling,
K.C.B.,

12 April 1867.

‡ *Supra*.

COPY of a LETTER from the Right Honourable *C. B. Adderley*, M.P., to
Sir *Charles Darling*, K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 12 April 1867.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant,‡ requesting that a copy of the petition of appeal to the Queen in Council, on the part of the Attorney General of Victoria, with other documents which you enclose, may be regarded as forming a part of your letter of the 4th of November last, and may be included in the paper recently moved for in the House of Commons by the Earl of Bective.

I am desired to inform you, in reply, that his Grace cannot sanction the printing of the petition of appeal and the other documents in the paper which is now preparing for presentation to the House of Commons in obedience to an address dated the 29th ultimo.

Sir Charles Darling,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. B. Adderley*.

— No. 3. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Charles Darling*, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

No. 3.
Sir C. Darling,
K.C.B., to the Duke
of Buckingham
and Chandos.
13 April 1867.

Cheltenham, 7 Lansdown-place,
13 April 1867.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Adderley's letter of the 12th instant,* informing me that your Grace cannot sanction the printing for Parliament of the documents enclosed in my letter to your Grace of the 3rd instant.†

* Page 52.

† Page 52.

Not being in possession of copies of the most important of those documents, I shall be much obliged if your Grace should feel at liberty to direct that they may be returned to me; and if it is considered necessary, undertake that the Colonial Department shall be supplied with copies thereof with very little delay.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling*.

His Grace
The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 4. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to Sir *Charles Darling*, K. C. B.

No. 4.
Sir F. Rogers,
Bart., to Sir C.
Darling, K.C.B.
20 April 1867.
‡ *Supra*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 20 April 1867.

IN compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 13th instant,‡ I am directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to return to you the documents which accompanied your letter of the 3rd instant.

His Grace desires me at the same time to forward to you a printed copy, which may be convenient to you to possess, of the petition addressed to the Queen in Council by the Attorney General of Victoria, praying for permission to appeal from certain judgments and decisions of the Supreme Court of that Colony, together with a copy of the report of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on the subject of Her Majesty's order thereupon.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. Rogers*.

Sir Charles Darling,
&c. &c.

— No. 5. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Charles Darling*, K. C. B., to his Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*.

No. 5.
Sir C. Darling,
K.C.B., to the Duke
of Buckingham
and Chandos.
17 April 1867.

My Lord Duke,

Cheltenham, 17 April 1867.

I PERCEIVE from the message by which the Governor of Victoria communicated to the Legislative Assembly of that Colony the Earl of Carnarvon's Despatch, "Victoria," No. 47,§ of the 8th December last, relative to the pecuniary grant which that body have proposed to make to Lady Darling, in order to "obviate in some degree the very heavy pecuniary loss" to my family, occasioned by my premature recall from the Government of that Colony, that his Lordship's Despatch has been understood to imply, that the correspondence which I had the honour to hold with him upon that subject, was not concluded.

§ *Vide* H. of C.
Paper, No. 310 of
1867, p. 37.

I venture to suppose that this view, on the part of Lord Carnarvon, may have been based upon the fact that I addressed to his Lordship my letter dated 3rd December last,|| after I had written to him upon the 22nd November|| immediately preceding, to say that I submitted to his Lordship's decision, that if the grant

|| *Vide* same paper,
pp. 95 and 97.

referred to were accepted, I could not retain my connection with the Colonial Service, and "that if I had felt that I could retain that connection in active employment, with advantage either to the public or to my own reputation, I should have been most reluctant thus to have terminated my career in the service of the Crown."

It seems proper I should explain that my letter of the 3rd December was written specially in reply to a letter from Mr. Elliot, bearing date the 29th November,* and, therefore, six days after the intimation of my submission to his Lordship's decision above referred to had been made. Mr. Elliot's letter, while informing me that Lord Carnarvon adhered to all the views he had already expressed, did not apprise me of the nature of the communication which it was his Lordship's intention to make to the Governor of Victoria; of which, indeed, I possessed no knowledge whatever until the 9th January, many days after it had been despatched to the Colony.

With this explanation, I have to state, explicitly, that neither by my letter of the 3rd December, nor by those of the 14th and 28th January,† had I any intention of qualifying the intimation I had previously made in my letter of the 22nd November, and which I regard as identical in meaning and intent with that conveyed by Lord Carnarvon's Despatch to the Governor of Victoria, namely, that the acceptance of the grant will be regarded "as a final relinquishment by Sir Charles Darling of that service, and of all the emoluments or expectations attaching to it."

But I did not conceive it to be inconsistent with the submission to his Lordship's decision thus declared, that I should afterwards, when I became acquainted with the terms of his Despatch, and the grounds upon which his views were founded, bring under his Lordship's consideration circumstances having a personal relation to myself, which I believed not to be within his Lordship's knowledge, or that of the gentlemen who were his principal official assistants, and which, I thought, might induce his Lordship to modify his views in some respects.

A year has now nearly elapsed since my recall from the Government of Victoria was carried into effect. Compelled by the increasing pressure of the circumstances attending the painful position in which that recall has placed me, it is Lady Darling's decision to accept the grant which the Legislative Assembly of that Colony have proposed to make to her; and I, therefore, in accordance with the requirement of the Earl of Carnarvon, finally relinquish the Colonial Service, and "all the emoluments or expectations attaching to it."

I have, &c.

(signed) *C. H. Darling.*

His Grace
The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 5.

MESSAGE.

Encl. in No. 5.

J. H. T. Manners Sutton, Governor.

THE Governor transmits to the Legislative Assembly the copy of a Despatch received by him by the last mail from the Secretary of State in reply to the Despatch in which General Carey, the Officer administering the Government, forwarded for presentation to Her Majesty the address to Her Majesty respecting the proposed grant to Lady Darling adopted by the Legislative Assembly on the 8th May 1866.

The Legislative Assembly will observe, that the Secretary of State has been engaged in a correspondence on the subject of that address with Sir Charles Darling, which correspondence at the date of the Despatch was not concluded.

Government Office, Melbourne,
19 February 1867.

* *Vide* H. of C. Paper, No. 310 of 1867, pp. 95 and 97.

† *Vide* same Paper, pp. 105-109.

— No. 6. —

COPY of a LETTER from *T. Frederick Elliot*, Esq., to Sir *Charles Darling*,
K.C.B.

No. 6.
T. F. Elliot, Esq.,
to Sir *C. Darling*,
K.C.B.

Sir,

Downing-street, 29 April 1867.

29 April 1867.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant,* in which you finally relinquish the Colonial Service, and all the emoluments or expectations attaching to it.

* Page 53.

Sir Charles Darling,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. Frederick Elliot*.

— No. 7. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Charles Darling*, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and Chandos.

No. 7.
Sir *C. Darling*,
K.C.B., to the Duke
of Buckingham
and Chandos.

22 April 1867.

My Lord Duke,

Cheltenham, 22 April 1867.

I VENTURE to request that your Grace will be good enough to acquaint the Governor of Victoria, by the mail of the 26th instant, that I have, by a letter addressed to your Grace, finally relinquished the Colonial Service, and all the emoluments or expectations attaching to it.

His Grace
The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling*.

— No. 8. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to Sir *Charles Darling*, K.C.B.

No. 8.
Sir *F. Rogers*,
Bart., to Sir *C.*
Darling, K.C.B.

14 May 1867.

† *Supra*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 14 May 1867.

IN reply to your letter of the 22nd ultimo,† I am directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acquaint you that he has, in compliance with your request, informed the Governor of Victoria that you have finally relinquished the Colonial Service.

Sir Charles Darling,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers*.

— No. 9. —

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Charles Darling*, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
Buckingham and Chandos.

No. 9.
Sir *C. Darling*,
K.C.B., to the Duke
of Buckingham
and Chandos.

22 April 1867.

‡ Page 53.

My Lord Duke,

Cheltenham, 22 April 1867.

I do myself the honour to acknowledge Sir *Frederic Rogers*' letter of the 20th instant,‡ and to offer to your Grace my respectful thanks for the printed documents therein transmitted to me.

His Grace
The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. H. Darling*.

COPY or EXTRACT of further CORRESPONDENCE respecting and arising from the Non-enactment of APPROPRIATION ACT in *Victoria* and the RECAUSE of the GOVERNOR of the COLONY, since the LETTER from the Right Honourable *C. B. Adderley*, M.P., to the Right Honourable *C. Darling*, K.C.B., dated 7 March 1867, with Enclosure (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper No. 310, of Session 1867).

(*Mr. Adderley.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
20 March 1868.

[*Price 8d.*]

VICTORIA.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING AND ARISING FROM THE

NON-ENACTMENT OF THE APPROPRIATION ACT IN VICTORIA.

(In continuation of Papers presented March 1868.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
April 1868.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1868.

[Price 1d.]

SCHEDULE.

Number in Series.	Number and Date.	SUBJECT.	Page.
-------------------------	------------------	----------	-------

DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR.

1	1 Feb. 1868. - - [Note from Sir H. Manners Sutton, K.C.B., to Sir Fre- deric Rogers, Bart.]	Requests permission to substitute for the Despatch, No. 161, of the 27th December, (printed in House of Lords Paper, No. 50, of 1868, page 42,) an amended copy of it.	3
2	4 Feb. 1868 (No. 17) -	Acknowledges receipt of Despatches, conveying approval of the course pursued by the Governor up to the 27th Sep- tember, and expresses his grateful appreciation of the terms in which that approval had been notified to him by the Secretary of State.	4
3	4 Feb. 1868 (No. 18) -	Forwards Proclamation dissolving the Legislative Assembly, and reporting the result of the General Election, so far as it had proceeded.	5
4	3 March 1868 (No. 34)	Reports the results of the General Election - - - - -	7

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

1	31 March 1868 (No. 21)	Acknowledges Governor's Despatch, No. 18, of 4th February, explaining the grounds on which he decided to dissolve the Legislative Assembly.	8
2	31 March 1868 (No. 22)	Acknowledges Governor's Despatch, No. 17, in which the Duke of Buckingham's Despatches, Nos. 75, 76, and 90, are ac- knowledged, which conveyed to the Governor his Grace's approval of his conduct with reference to the proposed grant to Lady Darling. Has no objection to the publication of the correspondence.	8

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE, &c.

Despatches from the Governor.

VICTORIA.

COPY of a NOTE from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B., to
Sir FREDERIC ROGERS, Bart.

No. 1.

No. 1.

(Received, March 23, 1868.)

SIR H. MANNERS SUTTON presents his compliments to Sir Frederic Rogers, and requests permission to substitute for the Despatch of the 27th December, No. 161,* transmitted by the last mail, on the 28th December 1867, the enclosed amended Despatch of the same date and number. The only alteration made in this part amended Despatch is the insertion, in the fifth paragraph of the Despatch, of the name of General Carey among those of the Governors who have signed warrants for the satisfaction of judgments in the absence of any Parliamentary vote.

* Vide Ho.
Lords Paper,
No. 50, of 1868,
page 42.

The name of General Carey was inadvertently omitted from the list set forth in the Despatch sent by the December mail.

Government Offices,

Melbourne,

1st February 1868.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Enc. in No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B.,
to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.
(No. 161.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,

December 27, 1867.

MY LORD DUKE,

YOUR Grace is aware that, under the circumstances detailed in my Despatch of the 27th November, No. 155,† I assented to the recommendation of my Responsible Advisers, that Parliament should be dissolved, and you are also cognizant of the reasons why the dissolution did not immediately follow my acceptance of this advice.

† Vide Ho.
Lords Paper,
No. 50, of 1868,
page 37.

2. I have now the honour to state that in addition to, and independently of, the visit to this Colony of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, which will not terminate until the 4th proximo, circumstances have occurred, since the Despatch above referred to was written, which, as it appeared to me, were worthy of consideration in determining the time of the dissolution, if not in connexion with the decision to dissolve.

3. For, on the 3d December, (a few days only after the departure of the last mail,) a case was argued before the judges sitting in Banco of the Supreme Court, which case, although the Crown was not a party to the suit, or directly connected with it, raised not only the question of the validity of judgments obtained by default under the "Crown Remedies Act," but other questions also of even greater importance respecting the scope and operation of that Act, and bearing more or less directly on the constitutional functions of the Government and the Legislature in matters of finance.

4. I enclose for the information of your Grace a report, marked A, of the arguments of counsel on both sides in this case. The Court deferred judgment, which was, however, delivered on the 24th, and I enclose a report, marked B, of that judgment.

5. I have not, as yet, had an opportunity of learning fully the views of my advisers respecting this judgment, which was, as regards some points, unexpected by them and by the Audit Commissioners, as well as by myself. I refer, especially, to the decision, authoritative, that a judgment of the Supreme Court under the "Crown Remedies Act," does not in itself render monies in the Treasury legally available for the satisfaction of that judgment. The opposite view has been hitherto accepted and acted upon by the Audit Commissioners, and by successive Governors, including Sir Henry Barkly, Sir Charles Darling, General Carey, and myself, without interruption; and your Grace will observe that the correctness in law of this practice was not questioned by the counsel in the case recently decided. But the decision of the Court against it is clear

VICTORIA.

and authoritative, and this decision will, of course, guide the proceedings of the Audit Commissioners, as well as of the Governor, for the future.

6. It is, perhaps, right that I should state that although the process of paying money out of the Treasury is commenced by the requisition of a minister (the Treasurer), the Governor's warrant, without which no money can be issued from the Treasury, is not signed until the Commissioners of Audit have certified, in accordance with the provisions of the Audit Act, that the sum or sums of money for which the warrant has been prepared are legally available for the purposes specified in it, and I have never signed or been invited to sign a warrant to which this certificate, signed by two Commissioners of Audit, has not been preliminarily attached.

7. A reference to the opinions expressed by me in former Despatches, and their enclosures, of the effect in a constitutional point of view of the "Crown Remedies Act," as its scope and operation were then understood, will convince your Grace that the interpretation given to that Act by the Supreme Court, although unexpected, is not regretted by me. On the contrary, this interpretation reconciles, as it appears to me, the letter of the law with the spirit of the constitution.

8. I cannot hope to be able to report to your Grace by this mail, which closes to-morrow morning, the result of the deliberations of my advisers, and my decision as regards the question of dissolution. But I am disposed to believe that the consideration of the difficulties and very grave inconveniences attaching to either of the two courses (viz., the re-assembly of the existing Parliament, or a dissolution,) open to me, will lead to an adherence to the determination to dissolve as being the lesser evil, and if so, the dissolution will be immediate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B.,
to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

Government Offices, Melbourne,

February 4, 1868.

(Received, March 23, 1868.)

(Answered, No. 22, March 31, 1868, page 8.)

(No. 17.)

MY LORD DUKE,

IN acknowledging the receipt of your Grace's Despatches, marked in the margin, I wish to be permitted to express to your Grace the satisfaction with which I have learnt that the course pursued by me, up to the 27th September, has been approved by your Grace, and my grateful appreciation of the terms in which that approval has been notified to me.

On receiving the above-mentioned Despatches (viz., on the 6th and 13th of January respectively), I thought it desirable to publish them together with my Despatches to which they were the replies, for general information, and I took this step, not from any desire to influence the elections which were and are now in progress, or otherwise to alter the prospects of either of the two contending political parties, but because I was aware that misapprehension existed with respect to the motives by which I have been guided, as well as to other points (I refer especially to the interpretation to be given to Lord Carnarvon's Despatch of the 8th December 1866,† and to your Grace's Despatch of the 10th May 1867,‡) mentioned in the correspondence, and I thought that the public interests required, and, indeed, that it was due to the public as well as to myself, that these misapprehensions should be removed as speedily as possible.

I have the honour to enclose copies of the Gazettes Extraordinary, (of the 6th and 13th January,) in which the correspondence above referred to was published.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 3.

VICTORIA.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B.,
to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 18.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,

February 4, 1868.

(Received, March 23, 1868.)

(Answered, No. 21, March 31, 1868, page 8.)

MY LORD DUKE,

* Page 3.

WHEN my Despatch of the 27th December, No. 161,* was written, the question whether Parliament should be dissolved or re-assembled by proclamation was still under my consideration, my Responsible Advisers had recommended the first-mentioned course. Upon my decision, therefore, depended the question whether they were to continue in office, or to withdraw in consequence of my rejection of their advice; and I did not arrive at a final decision until after the departure (on the 28th December) of the mail steamer.

2. But I intimated to your Grace in the concluding paragraph of my Despatch (above referred to) the probability of an immediate dissolution; and I have now the honour to inform your Grace that ultimately, and upon full consideration, I arrived at the conclusion that an acquiescence in the recommendation of my Responsible Advisers, that Parliament should be dissolved, was liable to fewer and less grave objections than any other course open to me.

3. I am, indeed, sensible that grave objections may be urged against the dissolution, but on this occasion, and indeed in almost every other instance in which I have been called upon to exercise my own judgment in connexion with the political contest now in progress here, the choice presented to me has been one not only of difficulties, but of positive evils: and my vindication, therefore, must rest, not on the abstract merits of the course adopted by me, but on the preponderance of the evils attendant on any other course.

4. Now, I was aware that the rejection by me of the recommendation of my advisers (that Parliament should be dissolved) would be immediately followed by their resignation, and, therefore, the probable consequences of a re-assembly of the then existing Parliament, without a preliminary change of Government, was not one of the questions which it was my duty to consider.

5. But it was my duty to consider, firstly, the probability of a concurrence of both Houses, if re-assembled, on the advice of a new administration, in a Parliamentary provision (temporary it might be, but immediate and legal) for the current requirements of the public service. And I should state, in connexion with this question, that the assent of the Legislative Assembly to any such immediate provision, in the absence of the new ministers, would have been, under the circumstances which would have then existed, even less probable than the acquiescence of a majority of the Legislative Assembly in a proposal deliberately submitted by ministers, and supported by their arguments and votes; while, on the other hand, I was informed, and believe, that the re-election of new ministers, consequent on their assumption of office, occupies, under ordinary circumstances, a period not very much less than that necessarily consumed by a general election.

6. Of course the success of the new government in the Legislative Assembly would have terminated the dead lock, and would have afforded to the government the requisite means for meeting the current demands on the Treasury. But the probability of this result had been, as your Grace is aware, repeatedly and anxiously weighed by me. And although, when this question was again considered by me, the decision (referred to by me in my Despatch of the 27th December 1867, No. 161,) of the Supreme Court had no doubt altered the character (or I should rather say the practical effect) of the dead lock, I was unable, on this last occasion, as I had been unable on former occasions, to discover any Parliamentary or other legitimate grounds for believing (I know that in some quarters the opposite opinion is entertained and has been enunciated) that the transfer by me of official power from one party to the other would have produced harmony or co-operation between the two deliberative branches of the Legislature.

7. And I had to consider, secondly, the probable result of, and the position in which I should be placed by, the continued determination of the majority of the Legislative Assembly to support their present leaders, under which circumstances an immediate dissolution would, under the auspices of one or other of the two contending parties, have been inevitable.

8. Now your Grace will perceive from the date of the proclamation dissolving

Enclosure.
30th Dec. 1867.

VICTORIA.

Parliament, that my decision on this question was arrived at before I received (on the 6th January) your Grace's Despatches of the 30th and 31st October 1867, Nos. 75 and 76.* But I can assure your Grace that in arriving at that decision, I was mainly influenced by my determination to maintain between the two contending parties that neutral position which I assumed at the commencement of the contest, from which I have never deviated, and to which I have received your Grace's instructions to adhere.

9. It only remains for me to submit for your Grace's information a statement of the result of the elections hitherto concluded. Your Grace is aware that by the Electoral Law here the constituencies are divided into three "batches," and that it is provided that a certain interval of time shall elapse after the conclusion of the elections included in one "batch" before those included in the next "batch" can be commenced. Hitherto one "batch" only of elections, and those elections which were uncontested in the second "batch," have been brought to a conclusion. The returns comprise 29 members. Four new members (*i.e.*, members who did not sit in the last Parliament) have been elected, three of whom are, I believe, ministerialists; while the fourth is, I understand, a member of "the opposition." And I am informed that the gains and losses of seats of the two parties respectively are in the same proportion, namely, three and one.

10. It is, perhaps, right that I should state that in some, if not in most of the elections contested, the minorities have been large, and in estimating the current and force of public opinion this fact should not be ignored. But although the rights of minorities are entitled to respect, their rights cannot be regarded as greater than those of the majorities, and there can be no doubt that, as yet at least, the result of the elections has tended to confirm, not to discredit, the opinions expressed to me by my Responsible Advisers with respect to the probable results of an appeal to the constituencies. But if the elections should, when concluded, show a different result, I shall be, as your Grace knows, perfectly ready and willing to adopt that course which would, under those circumstances, be pointed out for my adoption by constitutional usage. And whatever may be the result of the elections, your Grace may be sure that I shall abide by your Grace's instructions to persevere in a course of entire neutrality, and to avoid even the appearance of taking part with one side or the other in the controversy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enc. in No. 3.

Enclosure in No. 3.

VICTORIA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

No. 145.]

Monday, December 30.

[1867.

FURTHER PROROGUING PARLIAMENT AND DISSOLVING THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

PROCLAMATION.

By his Excellency the Honourable Sir John Henry Thomas Manners Sutton, Knight Commander of the most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Victoria, &c., &c., &c.

WHEREAS the Parliament of Victoria now stands prorogued to Tuesday the thirty-first day of December instant: And whereas it is expedient to dissolve the Legislative Assembly: Now therefore I, Sir John Henry Thomas Manners Sutton, the Governor of Victoria, in exercise of the power in me vested in this behalf, do, by this my Proclamation, discharge the Honourable the Members of the Legislative Council, and the members of the Legislative Assembly, from their meeting and attendance on the said Tuesday, the thirty-first day of December instant; and I do dissolve the Legislative Assembly, which is hereby dissolved accordingly. And inasmuch as it is desirable that Parliament should be summoned without delay, I do hereby declare that I have this day given order that writs be issued in due form, and according to law, for the election of members to be duly returned to serve in the Legislative Assembly.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Colony, at Melbourne, this thirtieth day of December, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, and in the thirty-first year of Her Majesty's reign.

(L.S.)

J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

By his Excellency's command,

J. McCULLOCH,

Chief Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B.,
to his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 34.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,

March 3, 1868.

(Received, April 20, 1868.)

MY LORD DUKE,

The elections, general, which were in progress when my Despatch of the 4th February 1868, No. 18,* was written, are now concluded, and these elections have resulted in the return to the new Legislative Assembly of a large majority of members belonging to the ministerial party. As regards the precise number of that majority, some difference of opinion is entertained, as might be expected; for while the ministerial organs claim 60 members as supporters of the Government, leaving to the opposition 18, the opposition organs claim 21, thus reducing the number of ministerialists to 57. Whichever of the two calculations may be correct, one fact is unquestioned, namely, that the recent elections have not destroyed the majority (I do not think that it would be denied that they have increased it,) by which the present administration were supported in the last House of Assembly.

* Page 5.

But as most of the seats were vigorously contested by candidates of opposite political opinions, so the minorities were frequently large, and the numerical proportion of the supporters and opponents of the contending classes of candidates have been subjected in the public prints to different analyses with conflicting results. But although it is contended (not without apparent grounds) on one side that the ministerial majority in the Legislative Assembly is disproportionately large compared with their majority (taken as a whole) at the polls, it is not denied that the majority in the Legislative Assembly have been returned by a majority of those who have voted at the polls.

And with the admission of the facts that a majority in the Legislative Assembly has been returned by the majorities of their respective constituencies, and by a majority of the whole number of those who voted at the polls, the contention that public opinion has not been pronounced, as the constitution of this Colony contemplates its enunciation, in favour of the majority, at the moment, and on the precise issue or issues submitted for consideration, is, I think, untenable. At all events, the ministerial majority (admitted, as it is, by the opposition organs to consist of 55 out of 78 members of the Legislative Assembly,) affords, as it appears to me, a conclusive justification for my abstaining from taking any step, the policy of which was dependent on the probability of success, at the polls, of the political party now in opposition. For I do not believe myself, (nor do I believe that it would be now contended by others,) that the existing ministerial majority in the Legislative Assembly could have been converted into a minority (although it might have been diminished) by the transfer by me of official authority from those who now hold it to their opponents.

I have nothing to add with regard to the past. As regards the future, it would not, I think, serve any good purpose, but might tend to mislead your Grace, if I were to add to the preceding explanation of, and remarks respecting, the results of the contests at the polls, anticipations with respect to the impending contest in the Legislature. Your Grace is aware that, from the commencement of the existing controversy between the two Houses, I have earnestly sought to contribute to the restoration of harmony between them, and that my endeavours to promote this object have only been limited by my sense of the paramount importance of abstaining from any step which might involve the Representative of the Crown in the conflict. I have the satisfaction of knowing that, in the view which I thus took of my duty, I correctly interpreted the instructions of the Secretary of State; and while I submit to your Grace that the course which I may pursue, in the endeavour to perform a duty, always delicate, and sometimes scarcely possible, is entitled to the favourable consideration of your Grace, I can assure you that I shall continue to adhere to those principles, and persevere in that line of conduct which, up to the date of my Despatch of the 27th September 1867,† has been sanctioned and approved by your Grace.

† Vide Ho.
Lords Paper,
No. 50, of 1868,
page 27.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

VICTORIA.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to
Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B.

(No. 21.)

SIR, Downing Street, March 31, 1868.

* Page 5.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 18,* of 4th February, in which you explain the grounds on which you decided to dissolve the Legislative Assembly, and report the result of the general election so far as it had proceeded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.,

&c. &c. &c.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to
Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B.

(No. 22.)

SIR, Downing Street, March 31, 1868.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 17,† of 4th February, acknowledging the receipt of my Despatches,‡ Nos. 75, 76, and 90, of 30th and 31st October, and 26th November last, in which I conveyed to you my approval of your conduct with reference to the proposed grant to Lady Darling.

I have no objection to the course you adopted in publishing the correspondence which has passed on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

Governor Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.,

&c. &c. &c.

† Page 4.

‡ Vide Ho.
Lords Paper,
No. 50, of 1868,
pages 48, 49,
and 50.

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

VICTORIA.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING AND ARISING FROM THE

NON-ENACTMENT OF THE APPROPRIATION ACT IN VICTORIA.

(In continuation of Papers presented April 1868.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1868.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

[Price 1½d.]

1868.

SCHEDULE.

DESPATCH FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Number in Series.	Date and Number.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1	28 March 1868 (No. 53)	States that Parliament met on the 13th March. Acknowledges receipt of Despatch No. 1 of 1st January, respecting the inclusion in the Appropriation Act of the grant to Lady Darling. Reports the resignation of Mr. McCulloch and the Ministry, and the negotiations which were in progress for the formation of a new Administration - -	3

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

1	22 May 1868 (No. 42)	Encloses correspondence with Sir Charles Darling in which he requests to be allowed to withdraw his relinquishment of the Colonial service - - - - -	8
2	26 May 1868 (No. 44)	Transmits further letter from Sir Charles Darling expressing his inability, under the circumstances, to accept the proposed grant to Lady Darling - - - - -	11
3	30 May 1868 (No. 45)	Acknowledges Despatch No. 53, of 28th March, reporting the resignation of Mr. McCulloch and his colleagues, and the negotiations which were in progress for the formation of a new Ministry under Mr. Riddell - - - - -	12

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO HER MAJESTY'S CONSUL AT ALEXANDRIA.

4	28 May 1868 (Telegram.) -	Directs him to transmit, by letter, to Sir John H. T. Manners Sutton, a message that Sir Charles Darling has written to declare his inability, under the circumstances, to accept the proposed grant - - - - -	12
---	------------------------------	--	----

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

(IN CONTINUATION OF PAPERS PRESENTED APRIL 1868.)

VICTORIA.

Despatch from the Governor.

Governor the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B., to his Grace the Duke of
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

(No. 53.)

Government Offices, Melbourne,
March 28, 1868.

(Received May 18, 1868.)

(Answered No. 45, May 30, 1868, page 12.)

MY LORD DUKE,

No. 34 of 3rd
March.

Vide Comman
Paper, pre-
sented April
1868, page 7.

In my Despatch marked in the margin, I had the honour to notify to your Grace the conclusion, and, in general terms, the result of the elections.

2. The new Parliament met in accordance with the terms of the Proclamation issued by me on the 13th instant, for the transaction of such preliminary business, including the swearing in of Members, and the choice of a Speaker by the Legislative Assembly, as could be properly performed before the delivery of the Governor's Speech, and it was, in the first instance, arranged that the speech should be delivered by me on Tuesday the 17th instant.

3. My Responsible Advisers, as your Grace is aware from my former Despatches, intended to recommend, on the assembly of the new Parliament, the inclusion in the estimates to be submitted by message from the Governor, of the proposed grant to Lady Darling; and there could be no doubt that this vote, when passed by the Legislative Assembly, would have been included by them in the Appropriation Bill, and thus sent up for the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

4. But on the 6th instant I received by the mail, *via* Panama, your Grace's Despatch of the 1st January, No. 1*, and I forthwith communicated, but in the first instance confidentially, that Despatch to my Responsible Advisers.

5. A correspondence, of which copies are enclosed marked A., B., C., D., E., F., G., &c., ensued, and on the 11th instant Mr. McCulloch, for the reasons assigned in his memorandum of that date, marked D., tendered to me the resignation of himself and his colleagues.

6. I immediately placed myself in communication with Mr. Fellows and (at his suggestion) with Mr. O'Shanassy, and having explained to them the circumstances under which Mr. McCulloch and his colleagues had tendered their resignation, and the instructions which I had received from your Grace, I requested their assistance in forming a new administration.

7. Mr. Fellows and Mr. O'Shanassy were, as your Grace will perceive from the enclosure marked H, prepared to undertake this duty upon receiving from me an assurance that if from any refusal of supplies, or other hostile vote, the new ministry should deem a dissolution necessary, the Legislative Assembly would be dissolved by me. But although I could not fail to recognize the very arduous character of the task which Messrs. Fellows and O'Shanassy had been invited to undertake, and while I did not conceal from myself the possibility, if not probability, that at an early period it might be necessary to consider the question of a dissolution, I yet regarded it as my duty preliminarily to exhaust every means at my disposal for the formation of an administration prepared to meet Parliament and to apply for the supplies necessary for the conduct of the current public business, without tendering to me advice which my instructions would render it impossible for me to accept, or receiving from me an assurance such as that which Messrs. Fellows and O'Shanassy regarded as an indispensable condition for their acceptance of office; and I declined, in the memorandum of which a copy is enclosed, marked I, to give that assurance.

8. I subsequently consulted Captain MacMahon and Mr. Bear (the latter gentleman is a member of the Legislative Council) and invited each in succession to undertake the

* Vide H. L.
Paper, No. 50
of 1868,
page 50.

Enclosure A.
6th March
1868.

Enclosure B.
10th March
1868.

Enclosure C.
10th March
1868.

Enclosure D.
11th March
1868.

Enclosure E.
12th March
1868.

Enclosure F.
12th March
1868.

Enclosure G.
12th March
1868.

Enclosure H.
17th March
1868.

Enclosure I.
20th March
1868.

VICTORIA.

Enclosure J.
21st March
1868.

formation of an administration. Both, however, declined. The former for the reasons assigned in a memorandum of which a copy is enclosed marked J.; while the latter (Mr. Bear) declined verbally on general grounds.

9. And here I should remark that it may be inferred from Captain MacMahon's memorandum (and I myself formed that inference), that in his (Captain MacMahon's) opinion, I had shown a preference for the political party which has supported Mr. McCulloch and his colleagues, over that of which Captain MacMahon is a prominent member.

And, although I did not think it necessary or expedient to enter into a correspondence with Captain MacMahon for the purpose of controverting this inference, your Grace will not, I am sure, regard my silence as an admission on my part that there are in reality any grounds whatever for the conclusion at which Captain MacMahon has, it would appear, arrived, the incorrectness of which conclusion is, I think, proved by the course which I have pursued, as well as by my despatches to your Grace explaining the motives by which I have been guided.

10. The four gentlemen (namely, Messrs. Fellows, O'Shanassy, MacMahon, and Bear) with whom, on receiving the tendered resignations of Mr. McCulloch and his colleagues, I successively placed myself in communication, are all identified with the political party which has opposed Mr. McCulloch's administration.

11. I subsequently placed myself in communication with Mr. Riddell, and having explained to him the existing condition of affairs, I invited his assistance in forming a new administration. Mr. Riddell has hitherto been a supporter of the Government of Mr. McCulloch and his colleagues, and he requested an opportunity of consulting his political friends before he gave a definite reply to the proposal which I had made. This opportunity was at once afforded to him by me, and three days afterwards, on Tuesday last, he, in conjunction with Mr. McPherson, who was at his request associated with him in the duty of forming an administration, undertook that duty and they are now engaged in endeavouring to perform it.

12. Meanwhile both Houses were, at the request of Mr. Riddell, adjourned from Tuesday last the 24th instant, for which day they were summoned, until Tuesday next the 31st instant.

13. I trust that before that time some definite arrangement will have been made, and if it should be made in time to allow me to communicate it to your Grace, by the outgoing mail, which closes at noon on Tuesday, I shall not fail to do so.

14. On the other hand I am aware that Mr. Riddell has encountered, and that he is now encountering, very great difficulties in the performance of the task which he has accepted.

I have, &c.,

J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure A.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

THE accompanying Despatch is forwarded to the Honourable the Chief Secretary in strict confidence, and, in the first instance at least, for the information of the Cabinet alone.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON,
Governor.

Government Offices,
Melbourne,
6th March 1868.

Enclosure B.

MINUTE FOR HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

MR. MCCULLOCH has the honour to acknowledge the receipt from His Excellency the Governor of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated the 1st of January, in which his Grace comments upon the differences existing between the Houses of the Legislature, and gives his Excellency certain conditional instructions.

2. Although his Excellency has thought fit to communicate this Despatch confidentially in the first instance, his advisers beg leave to recommend that it be immediately published in the *Government Gazette*.

3. The Chief Secretary, in his memorandum of the 22d of August 1867, informed the Governor that in the event of a dissolution of Parliament being rendered inevitable, his Excellency's advisers would use all the means in their power to make the issue to be determined by the constituencies clear, and their decision conclusive and effectual. To this end the Chief Secretary said in his election address that the question submitted to the constituencies was: "Whether the taxpayers are to have the sole control through their representatives of the public expenditure, as well as of the form of law by which that expenditure is ordinarily ratified." He further observed—"I trust that the result of the general election will be decisive upon this one point—(including as it does the right of the Legislative Assembly to deal with matters of finance) viz.:—that the grant to Lady Darling shall be carried into effect, and that the grant shall not be included in any other form of legislative enactment than that already determined upon by the Legislative Assembly—the Appropriation Act of 1867."

4. In the opinion of the Cabinet it is deeply to be regretted that Her Majesty's Government should have seen fit to depart from their former determination—"that the controversy must be locally decided." For it is apparent, from the terms of the Despatch, that while his Grace expresses the hope that the Legislative Council may have concurred in the grant in the Appropriation Bill, the Council is at the same time encouraged to reject the Bill, by the assurance that the grant will not be proposed again in that form.

5. While the Members of the Government are prepared to admit that no course coercive of the other branches of the Legislature should be taken by the Assembly which is not necessary for the maintenance of its rightful control over all matters of public finance, and which would not be taken by the House of Commons in the like case, they are bound to declare that the interference of the Crown in a matter so completely within the discretion of the Assembly, as the form of a Bill of Supply, cannot be justified by precedent, and threatens the existence of responsible government in this country.

6. It appears to his Excellency's Advisers that they would be wanting in their duty to the Assembly, three-fourths of whose members have been returned to support the grant to Lady Darling in the form in which it was voted by the late Assembly, were they to consent to hold office upon any understanding which would abridge the discretion of the Legislative Assembly as to the form of its grants to the Crown, and they therefore beg leave to inquire if the communication of the Duke of Buckingham's despatch is to be regarded by them as an intimation from his Excellency that his ministers are to be subject to the understanding which he is directed to impose should the Appropriation Bill for 1867 be again rejected by the Legislative Council.

7. If this be his Excellency's intention, it is obvious that the decision of the people will be disregarded; and, inasmuch as the members of the Government informed his Excellency that the general election should be treated by them as absolutely conclusive, they beg leave respectfully to inform his Excellency at once, that they will not take any course, submit to any condition, or offer any advice inconsistent with that decision.

JAMES McCULLOCH.

Chief Secretary's Office, 10th March 1868.

Enclosure C.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

THE Governor has received the memorandum of this day's date, signed by the Chief Secretary on behalf of himself and his colleagues, and he concurs in the recommendation that the despatch referred to in that memorandum should be published.

2. In reply to the question submitted to the Governor in the sixth paragraph of the memorandum, he would observe that the instructions conveyed to him in the above-mentioned despatch do not, as he understands them (and as he understands the character and scope of "instructions" generally), impose any conditions on his Responsible Advisers, or subject them to any understanding; but they do impose restrictions on the Governor, whose duty it is, in exercising the authority vested in him by the Crown, to adhere to the instructions of the Secretary of State.

3. In this instance however, the instructions of the Secretary of State are, as is stated in the memorandum, conditional; and while it would undoubtedly be the duty of the Governor to reject any advice (if such advice should be tendered to him), the acceptance of which would involve a violation by him of his instructions, that contingency has not arisen.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

March 10, 1868.

VICTORIA.

Enclosure D.

MINUTE FOR HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. McCulloch has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Governor's minute, dated yesterday, from which it appears that his Excellency considers that it would not be consistent with his duty to accept the advice of his Responsible Ministers upon the subject of the grant to Lady Darling, without an understanding, if the Appropriation Bill be rejected, that it shall not again be proposed in that form to the Legislative Council.

2. Although, as his Excellency observes, this contingency has not yet arisen, his advisers feel that they are not justified in assuming that it will not occur in the course of such proceedings as may be necessary to give effect to the decision of the people.

3. After very anxious consideration of the great difficulties in which his Excellency is placed, and of the embarrassment caused by the communication of his Excellency's intention to put in force the terms conditionally imposed by the Duke of Buckingham's despatch, the Chief Secretary and his colleagues have come to the conclusion that they cannot at this juncture retain office without failing in their duty to the Legislative Assembly and to the principles of responsible government.

(Signed) JAMES McCULLOCH.

March 11, 1868.

Enclosure E.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

THE Governor has received the memorandum of yesterday's date, signed by the Honourable the Chief Secretary on behalf of the Cabinet.

The resignation tendered to the Governor by the Chief Secretary of the position which he and his colleagues now hold as the Responsible Advisers of the Governor, render it necessary for him forthwith to call others to his councils; but of course he must request the Chief Secretary and his colleagues to continue to hold office until their successors shall have been appointed.

J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

March 12, 1868.

Enclosure F.

MEMORANDUM FOR HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

IN acknowledging his Excellency's minute of to-day's date, Mr. McCulloch begs leave to suggest that, under the unusual circumstances of the case, the correspondence which has passed between his Excellency and himself be immediately published in the *Government Gazette*, in connexion with the despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

March 12, 1868.

Enclosure G.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

THE Governor readily acquiesces in the request of the Cabinet that the documents explaining the grounds upon which they have placed in his hands their resignations should be published in the *Gazette*.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, Governor.

March 12, 1868.

Enclosure H.

MR. FELLOWS presents his duty to the Governor, and referring to the proposition made by Mr. Fellows on Friday last, and to the interview with which his Excellency favoured Mr. O'Shanassy and himself on Saturday, begs to state that he is willing to undertake the task of forming an administration on receiving his Excellency's assurance that if from any refusal of supplies or other hostile vote the new Ministry should deem it necessary, in furtherance of the duties which they undertake, to dissolve the Legislative Assembly, the power to do so will be given to them. This condition Mr. Fellows, under the present extraordinary complication of public affairs, regards as indispensable.

Mr. Fellows would observe that his Excellency's present advisers have already dissolved the Legislative Assembly three times during their four and a half years tenure of office; and as he understands that the Governor is unwilling again to dissolve, except as a last resource, he begs under the circumstances to submit to his Excellency the propriety of communicating to the present Ministry the views which Mr. O'Shanassy and Mr. Fellows entertain.

March 17, 1868.

Enclosure I.

THE Governor informs Mr. Fellows that, in transmitting at his (Mr. Fellows') suggestion to Mr. McCulloch, a copy of Mr. Fellows' memorandum of the 17th inst., he did not express any opinion whatever on the subjects referred to in the memorandum, nor did he ask the Chief Secretary for any advice respecting it.

The Governor has now received from Mr. McCulloch a memorandum commenting on Mr. Fellows' memorandum. But there is not, in the Governor's opinion, any reason to believe that the public interests would be advanced by the transmission to Mr. Fellows of Mr. McCulloch's memorandum, and he has informed Mr. McCulloch that he will not take this step unless he should be requested to do so by Mr. McCulloch.

The Governor now turns to Mr. Fellows' memorandum of the 17th instant.

Mr. Fellows will bear in mind that, in requesting him to undertake the duty of forming a new administration, the Governor did not attach any condition to the offer then made to him. For the Governor now regards as he has heretofore (throughout the existing controversy on the question of the proposed grant to Lady Darling) regarded that question as one to be locally decided, and on which it is not desirable that the Governor should, as the representative of the Crown, express any opinion whatever.

The Governor learns with regret that Mr. Fellows regards as an indispensable preliminary to his acceptance of office an assurance from the Governor that in the event of a refusal of supplies, or other hostile vote, the Legislative Assembly would be dissolved on the advice of the Government. The Governor would remark upon this subject that the expediency of a dissolution must under any and all circumstances depend materially, if not principally, on the condition of affairs at the particular time when the question is considered. And without entering into any discussion of the various important questions which would necessarily be raised by a recommendation for a dissolution at the present, or a very early period, he must inform Mr. Fellows that he is unable to give the assurance which Mr. Fellows has requested. The Governor proposes to consult Captain McMahon.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

Enclosure J.

IN obedience to the wish expressed by his Excellency the Governor that a written reply should be forwarded to the invitation to form a new administration with which Captain MacMahon was honoured by his Excellency, Captain MacMahon begs respectfully to inform his Excellency that having been a party to an undertaking, that without an assurance from his Excellency of the same active support as has been afforded to the existing Ministry (to the extent, if advised, of a dissolution) it would not be desirable that an attempt should be made by the Opposition to form an Administration which would inherit the extraordinary liabilities contracted by his Excellency's present Advisers (and which it has been the custom to provide for prior to retirement from office), Captain MacMahon could not, in justice to the party with which he has acted, and to the gentleman selected by his Excellency as its representative, undertake a task which the Hon. Mr. Fellows, in conjunction with the Honourable Mr. O'Shanassy, agreed to perform on receiving an assurance of such support from his Excellency.

Brighton, March 21, 1868.

VICTORIA.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1.

No. 1.

His Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS
SUTTON, K.C.B.

(No. 42.)

SIR,

Downing Street, 22d May 1868.

r C. Darling,
th of May,
68.
r. Adderley,
th May,
r C. Darling,
st May,
r. Adderley,
May.

I ENCLOSE copies of a correspondence with Sir C. Darling, from which you will perceive that that gentleman on becoming aware of the views entertained by Her Majesty's Government respecting the proposed grant to Lady Darling, has requested to be allowed to withdraw his relinquishment of the Colonial Service, having been informed that the effect of such a withdrawal would be to replace him in the position of an officer who has never left the service, and has been continuously subject to its rules.

Those rules, as you are aware, prohibit the acceptance of such a grant as that which has been under the consideration of the Legislature of Victoria, which therefore Lady Darling will now be precluded from receiving.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) BUCKINGHAM & CHANDOS.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

MY LORD DUKE,

Cheltenham, 2, Lansdown Terrace,

14th May 1868.

I do myself the honour to transmit to your Grace copies of letters which have passed between Sir Roundell Palmer and myself.

By a perusal of my letter of the 13th inst., your Grace will perceive that I consider that I have an equitable claim upon the revenues of Victoria to a sum arising from lapsed emoluments, which would, if successfully invested in any of the modes common in Australia, have now amounted to about 5,000*l*.

It will be seen also, that in consequence of my belief that I had received from the Earl of Carnarvon a bonâ fide intimation that I was both officially and morally free to accept the grant of 20,000*l*., which the Assembly of Victoria desired to make, I failed to receive an appointment in this country of considerable value, which might have lasted during my life, and the tenure of which would not have prejudiced my claim to pension.

I submit that a sum of 10,000*l*., being the amount of about six years' income from that appointment, would not be an unreasonable consideration for the destruction of the certain prospect which I had of receiving it.

I emphatically declare that I never conceived the idea of obtaining the grant by the relinquishment of the Service, until it was suggested to my mind by the perusal of Mr. Adderley's letter of the 12th October 1866.*

de House
Commons
ber, No. 310
867,
e 64.

If your Grace should consider that the views I have submitted are reasonable, the receipt of the two sums specified would no longer be on account of the pecuniary loss occasioned by my recall, although it is true that the claim in the one case would not have been urged if my tenure of the Government had been of the usual duration, and that in the other the appointment in lieu of which I ask for consideration could not have been offered, had I not been rendered free to accept it by my recall.

Under these circumstances the receipt of the sums I have specified would not, I think, be in contravention of the regulations. The case would thus be divested of its original character, and I would then ask permission to withdraw my relinquishment of my expectations connected with the Service, and that my claim to pension should be allowed to take its natural course.

I am sure your Grace will see that if the grant had never been proposed I should have now been in the enjoyment of the office referred to, with my claim to pension unimpaired.

I beg, however, respectfully to add that I am perfectly ready to abide by the result of the proceedings in the Legislature of Victoria, if your Grace considers I am bound by the election I have already made to take that course, and under the assumption, I need scarcely say, that the power of the Crown will not be further interposed to my disadvantage.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DARLING.

SIR,

Cheltenham, 11th May 1868.

I THINK it right to make you aware, by a distinct statement proceeding directly from myself, that I believe it to be utterly impossible that you can propose and advocate the vote of censure upon Her Majesty's Government, of which you have given notice for to-morrow, without involving an act of great injustice towards me; and I thus repeat to you the declaration I have made in various forms, since my recall from the Government of Victoria, that I court and anxiously solicit the fullest inquiry into my conduct in the administration of that Government, and into all my proceedings in regard to the pecuniary grant which the Legislative Assembly of the Colony have proposed to make, and which forms the subject of your motion.

I confidently anticipate that your sense of what is fair and just will lead you to substitute a motion for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into my conduct, for the motion of which you have given notice.

I press this the more urgently, because some of the statements made in the House of Lords during the discussion on Friday last show what misconceptions may exist, and what misrepresentations founded upon them may be put forth in the semblance, and I will not permit myself to doubt in the confidence, of truth.

I beg to invite your attention to a letter from me which I hope will appear in the "Times" and "Daily News" of to-morrow.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. H. DARLING.

Sir R. Palmer, Q.C., &c. &c.

6, Portland Place,
12th May 1868.

SIR,

You will see that my motion on the subject in which you are so much interested is for the present postponed.

In moving it I have no object in view in the least degree personal to yourself. The principle which I desire to maintain is, that grants of money to retiring Governors of colonies by Colonial Assemblies (unless proposed with the spontaneous approval of the Crown, on grounds of public service recognized as exceptional and meritorious by the Crown as well as by the Assembly), are not only inconsistent with the regulations of the service, but are subversive of the true relations between the Colonies and the British Empire, and ought under no circumstances whatever to be allowed.

I much regret that in a matter which seems to me to involve a public principle of the greatest importance your personal feelings and interests should be at all concerned. My object, however, being (as I have said) in no degree personal to yourself, and my view of the subject being quite independent of the question whether your recall was right or wrong, I cannot be expected to give to my motion, when renewed, the form which you desire. I can only assure you that I shall endeavour most carefully to abstain from urging anything which can be needlessly injurious to your interests or painful to your feelings; and that if any just and honourable way of mitigating the loss which you have sustained in consequence of measures taken under very difficult circumstances (and I doubt not according to the best of your judgment at the time), can be discovered without detriment to permanent public interests, it would be very acceptable to,

Sir, your obedient servant,
ROUNDELL PALMER.

Sir C. H. Darling, K.C.B.
&c. &c.

SIR,

Cheltenham, May 13, 1868.

I ACKNOWLEDGE with pleasure the courteous and considerate tone of the note which I have had the honour to receive from you.

I should cordially concur in the expediency and wisdom of the principle you desire to enforce, if it were extended to cases of unjust degradation and injury ascertained by Parliament, or by full inquiry instituted on the part of the Crown. I believe that in the mind of the British people the desire that justice should be done in all cases, but especially in that of a public servant, is even more deeply seated than the sentiment which prompts the recognition and reward of exceptional and meritorious services.

The frankness with which you have written is my best excuse for trespassing upon your attention, I hope, for a very brief space only, while I endeavour to show you that it may be difficult to found the assertion and justification of a general principle upon an individual case, without injustice and even injury to the person more immediately concerned therein.

My true relation to the proposed grant at the present moment cannot be gathered from the public documents laid before Parliament.

(1.) In the grant (20,000*l.*) is merged an equitable claim to a sum which may be now estimated at between 4,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* arising from lapsed emoluments which were mine by law and regulation, but which at the commencement of my administration, for reasons purely spontaneous and expedient at the moment, I allowed to remain undrawn, a course which I certainly should not have taken could I have contemplated the premature and abrupt termination of my Government. I believe nobody disputes the equity of this claim, or desires to object to its practical recognition. (2.) Under the belief that Lord Carnarvon's letter to me, and Despatch in reply to the Address of the Assembly, gave a *bonâ fide* option to accept the grant if I elected to retire from the service, I forfeited not only my pension of 1,000*l.* a year which would commence in February next, but an appointment in this country, with annual emoluments of from 1,500*l.* to 2,000*l.* a year, the enjoyment of which might have commenced in January 1867. It happened that when my recall took place the office of representative or agent of the colony of Victoria in London, the duties of which are not political, but connected exclusively with public loans, emigration, and other material interests of the colony, was vacant, having been some time before resigned by Mr. Childers, it was communicated to me that if I should not desire or be unwilling to submit to all the uncertainty attending the prospect of reappointment to a Colonial Government which might be opened to me on returning to England, and should feel disposed to undertake the duties of the agency, it had long been the desire of the Ministry to offer it to a gentleman possessing local and personal knowledge of the colony, and not altogether unknown in public life; and that the wish of the great majority of the Assembly and inhabitants would be gratified if I should accept the post. It is one which to me would have been most interesting and acceptable, and could have been held without prejudice to my claim to pension, although the pension would probably be subject to the operation of the

VICTORIA. 7th section of the Governors' Pensions Act. The annual salary of the office has never been less than 1,500*l.*, and would probably have been fixed at a larger amount. Without entering into a minute calculation it is not too much to say that the loss of this office and of a pension for life of 1,000*l.* a year, would not be adequately compensated by the remaining 15,000*l.* of the grant of 20,000*l.*, and that upon these grounds alone I am equitably entitled to more than that sum. The proposal to make the grant emanated from the Assembly and was independent of the offer of the agency. There are obvious reasons why I was both inclined and bound to give to it the preference if the sanction of the Crown could be obtained.

I now venture to ask you to read the accompanying extract of a letter addressed to me * * * *
* * * * * The letter is a private one (and I must ask you to consider it as such),* but therefore the more valuable as a testimony of the views and intentions of the writer; but being private I cannot make public reference to it, although I might in various ways have brought its substance to the knowledge of a select committee appointed to ascertain the facts of my case. It will be found, I think—

1st. To confirm my statement of the intention to offer to me the appointment referred to, but in regard to which other arrangements have now been announced.

2ndly. To show the perfect good faith in which the reference to the pleasure of the Crown respecting the grant was made.

3rd. To prove that the conviction produced by Lord Carnarvon's answer to the Assembly was that a *bonâ fide* option was given to me to accept, and to the Assembly to pass the grant, if I relinquished my claims upon the public service, or to use the words of the writer, that the "decision" of the Crown was not "unfavourable."

Now I am quite aware that these facts, which, I may mention, have not yet been brought to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government, do not affect the principle on which the address of the Assembly proceeds, namely that the grant was originally meant to compensate the pecuniary loss occasioned by my recall, a principle which you condemn, but which, for my own part, I conceive to be in its application to my case devoid of the objection which would otherwise attach to it, from the fact that both the intended donors and donee submitted the matter to the pleasure of the Crown.

But supposing the original grant for 20,000*l.* to be withdrawn and cancelled if already made, I believe I have now an equitable claim upon the above-mentioned grounds to a sum little if at all short of that amount, as well as to my retiring pension, my right to which I renounced under what I believe to have been the only reasonable, nay possible, construction which could have been put upon Lord Carnarvon's letters and Despatch, a construction which all the other parties concerned have agreed to place upon it, and which I have observed with the utmost surprise that His Lordship thought fit to repudiate in his place in the House of Lords.

Nothing can be more acceptable to me than the affirmation in your proposed motion that the Crown *has* given its sanction to the grant, although I shall nevertheless endeavour to make the motion the occasion of obtaining the inquiry I so much desire; and assuring you that in offering these observations I have not the slightest design to draw you into further correspondence on the subject,

Sir Roundell Palmer, &c. &c. &c.

I remain, &c.,
(Signed) C. H. DARLING.

SIR, Downing Street, May 19, 1868.

I AM directed by his Grace the Secretary of State to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. with enclosures.

In this letter you emphatically declare that you never conceived the idea of obtaining the grant proposed to be made to Lady Darling by the relinquishment of the Service until it was suggested to your mind by the perusal of my letter of 12th October 1866, and you further state that under certain circumstances you would "ask permission to withdraw your relinquishment of any expectations connected with the Service," and in conclusion add that you are perfectly ready to abide by the result of the proceedings in the Legislature of Victoria if his Grace considers you bound by the election you have already made.

His Grace presumes that he is to understand from this that you made your election to "finally relinquish the Colonial Service, and all the emoluments or expectations attaching to it," under a misapprehension of the views entertained by Her Majesty's Government. That being so, his Grace would not be disposed to hold that an officer of your long standing in the Service should under such circumstances be held bound to a decision formed on mistaken or incorrect facts.

But his Grace desires me to point out to you that any application by you for permission to withdraw your previous decision must be absolute and unconditional, nor can any such application be entertained unless it is made at once on the misapprehension being brought to your knowledge.

Such a withdrawal, if permitted, would replace you in the position of an officer who had never left the Service and has been continuously subject to its rules. At the present time his Grace does not feel himself called upon to enter upon any discussion of the several claims and questions to which your letter refers, as he considers you to have left that Service, which, with its emoluments and prospects, you elected to relinquish.

If, however, you ask to withdraw that decision, and Her Majesty's Government should decide to permit such withdrawal, you will be considered to be and to have remained subject to all the contingencies and regulations of that Service; and it would be his Grace's duty to consider any questions or applications which you might think fit to raise, and to deal with them according to the interests of the public service and the regulations which may be applicable, which this Department is bound to enforce, although it can have no desire to construe in a harsh or illiberal manner.

Sir Charles Darling, K.C.B.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) C. B. ADDERLEY.

* The letter is therefore not printed.

MY LORD DUKE,

Cheltenham, May 21, 1868.

VICTORIA

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Adderley's letter of the 19th inst.

From that communication I learn that I have been under a misapprehension as to the views entertained by Her Majesty's Government in regard to the pecuniary grant which the Legislative Assembly of Victoria, by an address to the Queen, expressed their desire to make to Lady Darling.

Under that misapprehension I was led to relinquish the Colonial Service, and I have now to ask the permission of Her Majesty's Government to withdraw my relinquishment, upon the ground that it was made under the misapprehension referred to.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. H. DARLING.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

Downing Street, May 22, 1868.

I AM directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge your letter of the 21st instant.

Her Majesty's Government are willing to accept your withdrawal of the relinquishment of the Colonial Service which was conveyed in your letter of the 17th of April 1867.* His Grace has accordingly communicated to the Governor of Victoria your letter of the 21st instant, in a Despatch, of which a copy is enclosed.† It will be necessary that you should further write to the Secretary of State, for communication to Sir H. Manners Sutton, by the next mail, a letter intimating your inability under these circumstances to accept yourself or by Lady Darling the proposed grant of 20,000*l*.

* Vide H. L. Paper, No. 50 of 1868, Page 54.

† No. 42. 22 May, page 8.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

Sir C. Darling, K.C.B.

No. 2.

No. 2.

His Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON, K.C.B.

(No. 44.)

SIR,

Downing Street, May 26, 1868.

WITH reference to my Despatch No. 42,* of the 22nd instant, I have the honour to transmit to you the copy of a further letter from Sir Charles Darling expressing his inability under the circumstances to accept, either himself or by Lady Darling, the proposed grant of 20,000*l*.

* Page 8.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BUCKINGHAM & CHANDOS.

The Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.

MY LORD DUKE,

Cheltenham, May 23, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Frederic Rogers' letter of the 22d inst., acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government have accepted my withdrawal of the relinquishment of the Colonial Service conveyed in my letter of the 17th April 1867, and informing me that it is necessary I should write a letter to the Secretary of State for communication to Sir H. M. Sutton, by the next mail, intimating my inability under these circumstances to accept myself, or by Lady Darling, the proposed grant of 20,000*l*.

I have accordingly to express my inability, either myself or by Lady Darling, to accept the proposed grant.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. H. DARLING.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos,

&c. &c. &c.

VICTORIA.

No. 3.

No. 3.

His Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to the Hon. Sir J. H. T. MANNERS
SUTTON, K.C.B.

(No. 45.)

SIR,

Downing Street, May 30, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 53,* of
28th March, reporting the resignation of Mr. McCulloch and his colleagues, and the
negotiations which were in progress for the formation of a new Ministry under Mr. Riddell.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

BUCKINGHAM & CHANDOS.

The Hon. Sir J. H. T. Manners Sutton, K.C.B.

No. 4.

No. 4.

TELEGRAM dated 28th May 1868.

Duke of BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS to HER MAJESTY'S CONSUL, Alexandria.

Please transmit by letter to Governor Sir John Manners Sutton at Melbourne the
following message :—Since my despatch of the 22nd of May, Sir Charles Darling has
written to declare his inability under the circumstances to accept the proposed grant,
either himself or by Lady Darling.

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

WEST INDIA ISLANDS, &c., RELIEF.

ANTIGUA, MONTserrat, AND NEVIS.

ACCOUNT (pursuant to Act of 6 & 7 Vict. c. 63, intituled "An Act for Granting Relief to the Islands of *Antigua, St. Kitts, Nevis, Dominica, and Montserrat*") of all SUMS ADVANCED to those Islands, and of all SUMS REPAID by reason of such Advances, with the INTEREST Paid thereon, during the Year ending 5th January 1868.

	Antigua.			Montserrat.			Nevis.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Original Advances - - - - -	100,000	-	-	23,000	-	-	12,000	-	-
Amount repaid, as per last Account - - -	90,000	-	-	13,337	12	1	10,800	-	-
Amount outstanding, as per last Account -	10,000	-	-	9,662	7	11	1,200	-	-
Deduct repayments omitted to be brought to Account - - - - -	-	-	-	1,152	1	5	600	-	-
Amount outstanding on 5 January 1867 - -	10,000	-	-	8,510	6	6	600	-	-
Principal repaid during the year ending 5 January 1868 - - - - -	Nil	-	-	1,056	17	9	-	Nil.*	
Balance outstanding on 5 January 1868 - - - - - } £.	10,000	-	-	7,453	8	9	600	-	-
Interest paid during the year to 5 January 1868 - - - - - } £.	Nil	-	-	261	12	6	-	Nil.*	

Treasury Chambers,
12 March 1868. }

G. SCLATER-BOOTH.

* A Bill for 619 l. 10 s. for principal and interest was received during the year, but was not realised until after the 5th January 1868.

TOBAGO, BRITISH GUIANA, AND TRINIDAD.

ACCOUNT (pursuant to Act of 11 & 12 Vict. c. 22, intituled "An Act for Granting Relief to the Island of *Tobago*, and for aiding the Colonies of *British Guiana* and *Trinidad* in raising Money for the Promotion of Immigration of Free Labourers") of all SUMS ADVANCED to the said Islands or Colony, and of all SUMS REPAID by reason of such Advances, with the INTEREST Paid thereon, during the Year ending 5th January 1868.

	Tobago.			British Guiana.			Trinidad.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Original Advances - - - - -	20,000	-	-	70,000	-	-	64,073	-	8
Amount repaid, as per last Account - - -	16,413	9	3	59,000	-	-	51,000	-	-
Amount outstanding as per last Account -	3,586	10	9	11,000	-	-	13,073	-	8
Deduct repayments omitted to be brought to Account - - - - -	1,100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amount outstanding on 5 January 1867 -	2,486	10	9	11,000	-	-	13,073	-	8
Principal repaid during the year ending 5 January 1868 - - - - -	1,327	11	9	7,000	-	-	-	Nil.	
Balance outstanding on 5 January 1868 - - - - - } £.	1,158	19	-	4,000	-	-	13,073	-	8
Interest paid during the year to 5 January 1868 - - - - - } £.	65	-	-	220	-	-	522	18	4

Treasury Chambers, }
12 March 1868. }

G. SCLATER-BOOTH.

WEST INDIA ISLANDS, &c., RELIEF.

ACCOUNT (pursuant to Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 63) of all Sums Advanced to the Islands of *Antigua, Montserrat, and Nevis*, and of all Sums Repaid by reason of such Advances, with the INTEREST Paid thereon during the Year ending 5 January 1868; and similar ACCOUNT (pursuant to Act 11 & 12 Vict. c. 22) for *Tobago, British Guiana, and Trinidad.*

(Presented pursuant to Acts of Parliament.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
13 March 1868.

WEST INDIES.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 11 June 1868;—for,

RETURN “of the Names and Offices or Incumbencies of all PERSONS in the WEST INDIES now receiving a SALARY or PENSION from the CONSOLIDATED FUND, the Date of their Appointment, and the Amount paid to each individually, making up the Total Amount of £. 20,300.”

Treasury Chambers, }
18 June 1868. }

G. SCLATER-BOOTH.

RETURN of all SALARIES or PENSIONS payable from the CONSOLIDATED FUND to Persons holding Offices or Incumbencies in the WEST INDIES, amounting in the Year to £. 20,300.

DIOCESE OF JAMAICA.

NAME.	OFFICE.	Annual Salary.			Date of Appointment, as far as can be obtained from Records.
		£.	s.	d.	
Spencer, Right Rev. A. G.	Bishop of Jamaica	3,000	—	—	1843
Courtenay, Right Rev. R.	Bishop of Kingston	800	—	—	1856
Venables, Right Rev. A. R. P.	Bishop of Nassau	1,000	—	—	1864
Rowe, Venerable William	Archdeacon	600	—	—	1862
Stewart, Venerable Thomas	ditto	600	—	—	1860
Brooks, Rev. G. B.	Clergyman	300	—	—	1862
Seymour, Rev. A. H.	ditto	150	—	—	1861
Angell, Rev. C.	ditto	150	—	—	1863
Gayleard, Rev. J.	ditto	200	—	—	1866
Ingle, Rev. W. H.	ditto	150	—	—	1851
Magnan, Rev C. M.	ditto	150	—	—	1861
Key, Rev. E. B.	ditto	150	—	—	1862
M'Dermot, Rev. H. M.	ditto	150	—	—	1863
Webbe, Rev. H. R.	ditto	150	—	—	1862
Rowe, Rev. D.	ditto	150	—	—	1866
Foote, Rev. A. B.	ditto	150	—	—	1866
Mais, Rev. J. L.	ditto	100	—	—	
Foster, Mr. R. R.	Catechist	100	—	—	
Stewart, Venerable T.	For Catechists	50	—	—	
TOTAL for DIOCESE of JAMAICA		£.	8,100	—	

DIOCESE OF BARBADOS.

N A M E.	O F F I C E.	Annual Salary.			Date of Appointment, as far as can be obtained from Records.
		£.	s.	d.	
BARBADOS:					
Parry, Right Rev. T.	Bishop of Barbados	2,500	-	-	1842
Parry, Venerable B. H.	Archdeacon	500	-	-	1861
Cummins, Venerable G.	ditto	250	-	-	1843
Clanckett, Rev. G. M.	Clergyman	50	-	-	1856
Rowe, Rev. Q.	ditto	50	-	-	
Watson, Rev. W. C.	ditto	100	-	-	
Sinclair, Rev. E. G.	ditto	100	-	-	1855
Skeete, Rev. H. B.	ditto	50	-	-	1840
Smith, Rev. E. N.	ditto	75	-	-	1863
Hawkins, Rev. E. J.	ditto	100	-	-	
Harbin, Mr. J. R.	Catechist	50	-	-	
ST. VINCENT:					
Labarde, Rev. H. W.	Clergyman	100	-	-	1855
Smith, Rev. E. L.	ditto	50	-	-	
Taitt, Rev. L. A.	ditto	100	-	-	
Burgess, Rev. W. S.	ditto	50	-	-	
Knight, Rev. E. S.	ditto	50	-	-	
ST. LUCIA:					
Petersen, Rev. C. L.	ditto	100	-	-	
Semper, Rev. J.	ditto	100	-	-	1864
TRINIDAD:					
Arindell, Rev. W. M. D.	ditto	100	-	-	
Wall, Rev. H. G.	ditto	50	-	-	
Rickards, Rev. H.	ditto	50	-	-	1846
Speed, Rev. J. L.	ditto	50	-	-	
Matthews, Rev. J. W.	ditto	50	-	-	
Jamieson, W. W.	Catechist	100	-	-	
Graham, J. G.	ditto	50	-	-	
GRENADA:					
Berkeley, Rev. R. F.	Clergyman	50	-	-	1852
Branch, Rev. G. M.	ditto	100	-	-	
Hemte, Rev. N.	ditto	100	-	-	
TOBAGO:					
Frederick, A. C.	Catechist	100	-	-	
Archie, W.	ditto	25	-	-	
M'Kell, J. W.	ditto	50	-	-	
TOTAL for DIOCESE of BARBADOS		£.	5,260	-	-

DIOCESE OF ANTIGUA.

ANTIGUA:					
Jackson, Right Rev. W. W.	Bishop of Antigua	2,000	-	-	1860
Clarke, Venerable George	Archdeacon	500	-	-	1850
Gibbs, Venerable G. M.	ditto	250	-	-	1861
Thacker, Rev. T.	Clergyman	75	-	-	
Culpepper, Rev. A. H.	ditto	75	-	-	
Thomas, Henry	Catechist and teacher	12	-	-	
Mercier, F. F.	ditto	60	-	-	
Delvin, J. W., and Michel, A. T.	ditto	25	-	-	
Isaacs, J., and Browne, H. A.	ditto	30	-	-	
Fraser, T. Q.	ditto	22	-	-	
Edwards, Jas., Newby, W., and Austin, W. D.	ditto	40	-	-	
Joseph, Z.	ditto	20	-	-	
DOMINICA:					
Yankee, Robert	ditto	40	-	-	
Dupayer, Mary	ditto	40	-	-	

DIOCESE OF ANTIGUA—continued.

N A M E.	O F F I C E.	Annual Amount.	Date of Appointment, as far as can be obtained from Records.
MONTSERRAT:			
		£. s. d.	
Todd, Rev. G. H. - - -	Clergyman - - -	40 - -	
Weston, W. C., and Wyke, Eliza	Catechist and teacher - -	40 - -	
Hamilton, Mary - - -	- ditto - - -	20 - -	
Palmer, H. S. - - -	- ditto - - -	30 - -	
Chalmers, Cinthelia - - -	- ditto - - -	18 - -	
St. Kitt's:			
Denbow, G. C. - - -	- ditto - - -	25 - -	
Fleming, Mary A. - - -	- ditto - - -	20 - -	
NEVIS:			
Saunders, J. W. - - -	- ditto - - -	40 - -	
ANGUILLA:			
Warneford, Rev. H. - - -	Clergyman - - -	160 - -	
Desbourne, H. B., M'Carty, A., and Gumbs, M. - - -	Catechists, &c. - - -	40 - -	
VIRGIN ISLANDS:			
Yeo, Rev. G. E. - - -	Clergyman - - -	160 - -	
Shirley, C. W. - - -	Catechist and teacher - -	30 - -	
Harrigan, W. H. - - -	- ditto - - -	18 - -	
Semper, H. R. - - -	- ditto - - -	20 - -	
TOTAL for DIOCESE of ANTIGUA - - - £.		3,850 - -	

DIOCESE OF GUIANA.

Austin, Right Rev. W. P. - -	Bishop of Guiana - - -	2,000 - -	
Webber, Rev. R. C. - - -	Clergyman - - -	300 - -	
Walton, Rev. R. - - -	- ditto - - -	200 - -	
Tanner, Rev. A. S. - - -	- ditto - - -	100 - -	
Wyatt, Rev. S. J. - - -	- ditto - - -	100 - -	
Large, Rev. J. J. - - -	- ditto - - -	50 - -	
Bhose, Rev. E. B. - - -	- ditto - - -	50 - -	
Bishfham, W. C. - - -	Catechist - - -	75 - -	
Drew, Rev. W. E. - - -	Clergyman - - -	50 - -	
Austin, Rev. W. - - -	- ditto - - -	75 - -	
Donells, Rev. G. W. - - -	- ditto - - -	100 - -	
TOTAL for DIOCESE of GUIANA - - - £.		3,100 - -	

RECAPITULATION of AMOUNTS Payable in the several DIOCESES.

N A M E OF DIOCESE.	Annual Amount.	R E M A R K S.
	£.	
JAMAICA - - - - -	8,100	
BARBADOS - - - - -	5,250	
ANTIGUA - - - - -	3,850	
GUIANA - - - - -	3,100	
TOTAL GRANT - - - £.	20,300	

Paymaster General's Office, }
17 June 1868.

J. P. Collier.

WEST INDIES.

RETURN of the Names and Offices or Incumbencies
of all PERSONS in the WEST INDIES now receiving
a SALARY or PENSION from the CONSOLIDATED
FUND, the Date of their Appointment, and the
Amount paid to each individually, making up the
Total Amount of £. 20,300.

(*Mr. Remington Mills.*)

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
22 June 1868.*
